

FOR A UNITED FRONT MAY DAY

Statement of the Central Committee,
Communist Party, U. S. A.

DOWN TOOLS! DEMONSTRATE IN THE STREETS!

For the Unity of Action by All Toilers in Defense of Their Living Standards, Their Civil Liberties, and in Defense of Peace.

To All Workers, Toiling Farmers, Negroes, Men, Women, and Youth:

On May First the workers of the entire world will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of that day which was born out of the struggle of the American working class for the eight-hour day. May Day is the day when the workers of the world demonstrate their international solidarity. On this day they close ranks and press forward to new struggles.

LET US DOWN TOOLS ON MAY 1. Let us go out into the streets and demonstrate that, in this seventh year of the crisis, we refuse to go hungry. Let the rulers in Wall Street and Washington know that we will fight for bread for our families, for peace and against the forces of reaction. Let the unity of labor defeat the menace of fascism in this country. LET UNITY BETWEEN SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS BLAZE THE WAY TO UNITY OF ALL TOILERS. Let us make this the May Day of the united front, of a united working class.

Unity of Labor to Smash Fascism

The riders of reaction are abroad in the land. Hearst, the Liberty Leaguers, all the reactionary forces of Wall Street, have launched a bitter attack against our democratic rights, our civil liberties, against our working class organizations. Their aim is to make the United States one vast concentration camp to make of the workers the serfs of the open-shoppers.

Let the workers demonstrate in the streets on May Day against these reactionary forces. Let the whole country ring with the giant voice of Labor. Let the bankers and industrialists and their puppets in the Supreme Court know that under no circumstances will the American working class permit them to establish fascism in this country.

To Fight for Bread is to Fight the Bankers

Our demonstrations must be a living defiance against reaction. We must serve notice that we will not yield an inch to the pressure of reaction. WE MUST SHOW THROUGH THE UNITED FRONT THAT LABOR CAN AND WILL PREVENT THE VICTORY OF FASCISM.

The bankers and employers have waxed fat under the New Deal. Their profits have multiplied by hundreds of per cent. While they hoard their millions, the children of the workers are deprived of milk and bread by the high cost of living. The New Deal has turned out to be a raw deal for the American workers.

They boast of recovery, of the upturn in production. But this recovery has only brought increased profits for the manufacturers and bankers. For the workers it has brought back-breaking speed-up, wages have been cut, and food and rent have soared sky-high. There are still twelve to fourteen million workers unemployed.

In this, the richest country in the world, half the population is living below the poverty line. Yet the reactionaries—Hearst and the Liberty League—are demanding that all relief be cut off, that nothing should be done to aid the distress of the working population. And Roosevelt steadily gives in to their demands.

Every City a Union Town

Make of May Day a day of struggle for higher wages, for the six-hour day, for the five-day week without reduction in pay, for the end of company unions and yellow dog contracts. On that day the organized workers must extend their hands in fraternal greetings to the unorganized. We must pledge that we will help to bring millions of unorganized workers into the trade unions and build a powerful American Federation of Labor, based on industrial unionism. Make every city a union city.

We must demand that the unemployed receive adequate relief, that wherever a factory is closed, the government must open it up and put men back to work at union wages. The demands of the unemployed for the passage by Congress of the Frazier-Lundeen Unemployment, Old Age and Social Insurance Bill must be echoed by all Labor. The interests of the unemployed and the employed are the same. A blow against one is a defeat for the other. Let all workers, employed and unemployed, young and old, demand genuine social insurance, demand that the aged be well taken care of, and that the youth shall be given jobs and the right to education.

May Day is labor's day. But it is also the day of all those oppressed by reaction, of all deprived of jobs and homes. The bulk of the farm population is bankrupted and is being steadily reduced to a landless peasantry. Labor and farmer join hands on May Day and demonstrate for the needs of the toiling farmers. Demand immediate and adequate relief; lighten the tax and debt burden; demand fair prices for the farmers at the expense of the monopolies and speculators; demand land and farm implements to the poor tenants and sharecroppers.

The Negro People

Labor must extend its hand to the Negro people, doubly oppressed and exploited by the white rulers. The life of the Negro people has been turned into one big horrible Scottsboro. White labor cannot be free as long as black is enslaved. May Day must become a day of struggle against lynchings and discrimination, and a day of struggle for the full political, social and economic equality of the Negro people.

We must resist the efforts of the bosses to profit from child labor. No child should have its life warped and stunted by back-breaking toil in factory or mill. We must fight for the abolition of all child labor.

On May Day we must have in our ranks all working women and all the wives of workers and farmers. We must defend them against the attacks of the reactionaries, who wish to reduce them to beasts of burden, to make them mere breeding animals for the war mongers. We must fight for their special interests and needs. Let us demand full equality for women.

Needs of the Youth

The youth of America, the flower of the country, has no prospect of jobs or a future. Let us demonstrate on May Day for the vital needs of American youth. Let us demand the immediate adoption by Congress of the American Youth Act.

May Day will come this year at a time when the peace of the world is threatened more than at any time since the end of the last World War. Italian Fascism is trying to enslave the people of Ethiopia and is sacrificing the lives and welfare of hundreds of thousands of Italian toilers. Japanese militarists daily rob the Chinese people of new territory and are making feverish preparations to attack the Soviet Union. In Europe, Hitler stands ready to unleash Nazi hordes against the small nations of middle Europe, and is trying to establish the domination of German imperialism with blood and iron. The fascist war mongers are striving to form an alliance of all the capitalist powers for a "crusade" against the U.S.S.R.—citadel of Socialism and the hope of the working class of the world.

The Fight for Peace

Let us on May Day show our unbreakable determination to fight for peace. Let us unmask the diplomacy of the Roosevelt government, which preaches the policy of the "good neighbor," but (Continued on Page 6)

Western Worker

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PROTEST ON C. S. ACT GROWS

Epics Call Convention at L. A. On May 10

SEEK TO WELD UNITY OF PRO-LABOR FORCES

Farmer-Labor Forces Making Headway In Many States

LOS ANGELES, April 9.—All liberal and pro-labor organizations in the state are invited to send delegates to the EPIC convention scheduled at EPIC Auditorium here Sunday, May 1.

Trade unionists, Townsendites, professional groups, members of the Grange and the Farmers' Union, Co-operatives and fraternal organizations have been sent convention calls.

Each organization is asked to work out its program for legislative action and on the basis of these proposals it is expected the convention will hammer out a unified plan of action.

THE CALL

The convention call states, in part:

"The political situation in California is critical. Back east we are already called a fascist state. The recent border patrol; the Criminal Syndicalism Act; the anti-labor legislation all threaten our wage level and our civil liberties. All liberals and pro-labor forces must unite in the face of this threat.

"Our rank and file are finding the Merriam and McAdoo forces working hand in hand across party lines. Our forces seek a common platform to meet this common enemy. On May 10th, such a common platform will be the chief item on the agenda.

DEFEAT REACTION

"... Work out your program and your legislation; send these along with your accredited delegates to the May 10th Conference. Out of these various contributions we shall work out a (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

FLP Highlights

lights this week included:

1. Calling of the EPIC convention at Los Angeles May 10 to weld a progressive, pro-labor, anti-fascist political program.
2. Washington Commonwealth Convention votes to investigate independent political moves in other states and removes obstacles to affiliation by Communist Party.
3. Mary Zuk, militant meat strike leader, elected to city council at Hamtramck, Michigan, on People's Ticket.
4. Progressive delegates to Florida State A.F. of L. Convention force Farmer-Labor issue to floor, defeating reactionary move to capture organized labor movement of state.

JOBLESS CHEER UNITY PROPOSAL

Call For Labor Party At Convention

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 8.—Great applause greeted the recommendation for unity of all jobless organizations made the opening day of the Convention of the Workers Alliance of America now in session here.

The unity proposal was vigorously put forward by David Lasser, National Chairman, and by the formal report of the National Executive Board. Some opposition to the move is expected. Nevertheless delegates from the National Unemployment Councils were seated, along with those of other unemployed organizations.

As the keynote of the convention Lasser also urged the formation of a national Farmer-Labor Party, and the mobilization of a mass march on Washington this summer, should the immediate needs of the jobless (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

LOS ANGELES POLICE SMASH 4 MASS MEETS

Strike at Anti-War Actions in Day's Terror Reign

LOS ANGELES, April 7.—Police brutality, organized by the infamous "Red Squad," struck at workers here yesterday when anti-war demonstrations in two sections of the city were broken up forcibly by large police details.

The demonstration at 43rd street and Central avenue, in the heart of the Negro area, was smashed just as Chairman Lou Rosser was concluding the meeting.

Rosser and other workers, including women, were beaten and Jack Johnson and Hershel Alexander were arrested.

BELVEDERE

Five carloads of police, a motorcycle squad, and members of the Red Squad attacked a mass meeting of 500 workers at Arizona street and Whittier boulevard, in the Belvedere area. Robert Taylor, Mexican worker, was pulled off the speakers' box by police.

Stoolpigeons and provocateurs were planted in the crowd in an attempt to provoke violence. Following the police attack, delegations were formed to go to Police Chief Davis to demand use of the streets and to protest this attack on constitutional rights.

This Belvedere meeting was led by the Boyle Heights, Belvedere, Pasadena, and Southern Pacific Sub-sections of the Communist Party.

\$100 BAIL APIECE

The two arrested workers, Alexander and Johnson, were arraigned today on charges of speaking without a permit and displaying a banner, and hearing was set for April 30th in Municipal Court, Division 7, at 9:30 a.m. They were released on \$100 bail each.

At the Los Angeles Plaza 250 workers gathered in a peaceful anti-war demonstration under the auspices of the Downtown Sub-section of the Communist Party. Leading speaker was Harold Ashe, who stressed the necessity of building a Farmer-Labor Party as a bulwark against war and reaction. Other speakers were Jack Goldman, rank-and-file leader of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union; Mr. Betz, of the American League Against War and Fascism; N. Schreier, and John Bromman. Emma Cutler was chairman.

Approximately 125 workers gathered at Whitley avenue and Hollywood boulevard for a fourth demonstration. Speakers were Emil Freed, of the Communist Party, and Dorothy Zadow, of the Young Communist League.

The four demonstrations were held on the 19th anniversary of the entrance of the United States into the World War.

Not Debatable

TACOMA, Wash., April 4.—Nearly 1,000 persons who assembled here Thursday night to hear a debate between Robert J. Pearsall of the Socialist party and Rev. A. L. Cook, retired Methodist minister, were only slightly surprised when Rev. Cook failed to appear to defend William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt "Christian" party.

"The Christian party is not debatable," said Grace Ellis, one of its leaders. Pearsall pointed out that "the greatest evils in history have always been held undebatable by their advocates."

STOP THIEF!

The reptile press is at it again! The Hearst newspapers have become suspiciously active in attacking and slandering the militant maritime unions of San Francisco and their rank-and-file leaders, with cries about "frame-up", "mutiny", and "sabotage". When the newspaper mouthpieces of the employers and the shipowners start hollering "frame-up", it is time to look about to see what dirty work they are trying to cover up.

Isn't it strange that the capitalist press should rush to the defense of a supposed "union leader", Ivan Hunter, secretary-treasurer of the International Seamen's Union, to help him out of the charges of plotting to murder the leaders of the Pacific Coast seamen? How gently they deal with this reactionary union official, compared to the savage attacks on the rank-and-file union officials! And how gentlemanly the courts are, setting only \$250 bail on a charge of conspiracy to commit murder! Compare that with the treatment of the Modesto boys, who were really framed because of their union activity! Compare it with the Sacramento victims of the Criminal Syndicalism Law, who to this day are denied bail pending their appeal, and whose "crime", in the eyes of the employers and their courts, was that they organized the agricultural workers to improve their frightful lot! Compare it with the Tom Mooney frame-up!

We do not doubt that the courts will whitewash Mr. Hunter of the charges against him. But no amount of cries about "Stop Thief!" will convince the waterfront workers who know Scharenberg, Hunter, and their kind, or allay the suspicion that a murder plot was nipped in the bud. This is not the first time that an attempt has been made to "get" Earl King, leader of the Marine Firemen, and other militant leaders. The maritime workers on the Pacific Coast have suffered enough from vigilante attacks to know that their enemies, both inside and outside the union, are not above using force and violence, which they falsely accuse the Communists of, to gain their ends.

Maritime workers! Be on your guard! For behind this newspaper barrage is being prepared a new attack on the waterfront unions, your militant leaders, and your hard won working conditions. The employers are preparing through court injunctions to carry out their union-wrecking and strike-breaking plans, to abolish the hiring hall, and to utilize the U. S. U. officialdom to divide your ranks. Scharenberg, Hunter & Co. are plotting to place their agents at the head of the Seamen, even if they have to split the West Coast unions to do it.

The whole Maritime Federation and all Organized Labor must rally to the support of the seamen against the shipowners' attacks.

CONVENTIONS TO PLOT DISMISSAL GET SHIP ROW IS PROTESTED

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9—

District Council No. 2 of the Maritime Federation here has called upon the San Pedro District Council to declare the Santa Rosa, now on her way to this coast manned by a scab crew, unfair.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 10—

As West Coast maritime unions prepare for election of delegates to the important I.L.A. District Convention May 5, and the Maritime Federation Convention May 15, both to be held at San Pedro, seamen and longshoremen are preparing for a show-down on two important issues.

When the S.S. Santa Rosa arrives at San Pedro from New York on April 12, maritime workers will have to decide what form of action they will take to support the East Coast seamen's strike which already involves 2400 men with 22 ships of four important shipping firms tied up.

According to Joe Curran, militant leader of the New York Strike Committee, the Santa Rosa sailed with a scab crew. The men received I.S.U. membership books from reactionary East Coast officials who are doing everything possible to break the strike.

INJUNCTION

Meanwhile maritime workers here are awaiting the result of the shipowners' court action for an injunction against union hiring halls of the Sailors, Marine Firemen and Cooks and Stewards unions. But reactionary officials sit back and are doing nothing to prepare for the approaching attack.

The district officials of the I.L.A. are silent on this question. The demand of the S. F. longshoremen for a district-wide referendum to decide on uniform action in support of the Sailors' Union, is being stalled by Paddy Morris, Lewis, Peterson and their pals.

Order Bundles of the Special May Day Edition Immediately! Plan Successful Distribution Of 100,000 Copies!

STATE BOARD HANDS 3 MEN 5 YEAR TERMS

Two Men Get Shorter Sentences; Unions Join Repeal Move

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9.—Five years for Pat Chambers, Martin Wilson and Jack Crane!

Three and one-half years for Albert Hougardy; three years for Norman Mini; possibility of 16 months parole for these two!

With the suddenness of a bombshell came the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles' answer yesterday to the nationwide demand for freedom for the eight victims of California's Criminal Syndicalism Act, now serving time in San Quentin and Tehachapi Prisons.

Saturday the Parole Board is to set the date for its meeting with the Prison Board at Tehachapi to consider parole for the three women, held there since their frame-up conviction in 1935 at Sacramento.

Meanwhile all sympathizers of labor and enemies of reaction are asked to increase the campaign of postal cards to the Parole Board demanding freedom for the C.S. victims.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 10—

Action of the State Parole Board in denying freedom to the C.S. victims at San Quentin will further unite forces seeking repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act. These forces are to meet at Sacramento in a state-wide Repeal Conference, Sunday, April 19.

A pre-convention rally is to be held at 68 Haight st. here Monday night, April 13. Delegates to the Sacramento Conference and all those interested in the repeal of the C.S. Law are urged to attend. Final plans for the bus caravan to leave San Francisco and Oakland for Sacramento on April 18, will be made. Round trip fares will cost \$1.75 each and can be purchased at 68 Haight street.

The San Francisco local of the International Longshoremen's Association, at its meeting Monday night, elected delegates to the April 19 Conference.

George Woolf, president of the Ship Stewards' Union and Ted Starr, president of the Bargemen's Union, both I.L.A. affiliates, were chosen by the S. F. District Council of the Maritime Federation to represent that body at the Sacramento Repeal Conference.

The Repeal Conference has two definite aims: 1. To free the eight victims of California's most fascist law; 2. To strike this measure off the state statute books forever.

Labor organizations, students and churches have elected delegates to the Conference.

Meanwhile resolutions are pouring in from all parts of the country protesting the railroad of the C.S. victims. The International Labor Defense is conducting a nationwide campaign to secure their release.

RICHMOND, Calif., April 9—

The Public Works and Unemployed Union here has endorsed the C.S. Conference and is sending three delegates.

The PWUU at Vallejo has taken similar action as has the PWUU County Council at Richmond.

Collect all funds and lists to close out the Western Worker financial drive, and send them to 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, immediately.

LABOR COUNCIL FACES CITY COUNCIL ON ANTI-PICKETING ACT

BUILDING TRADES, PWUU, EPIC CLUB, UTOPIANS AND ACLU JOIN MASS PROTEST

OAKLAND, April 7.—Acting upon its resolution of the previous meetings, the Alameda County Central Labor Council last night adjourned its meeting and assembled at the city hall in San Leandro to demand of the City Council that it repeal the recently enacted anti-picketing ordinance.

The council chambers were packed, with the crowd overflowing into the hall and down the stairs. Answering the calls of their organizations the workers had come from all over the East Bay for this session.

Labor and liberal organizations represented by speakers favoring repeal of the act were, the Alameda County Central Labor Council, the Building Trades Council, the Alameda County Public Works and Unemployed Union, the San Leandro Epic Club, the Utopian Society and the American Civil Liberties Union.

IT'S ILLEGAL

The first speaker for repeal was Clarence Rust of the Civil Liberties Union. He reminded the city fathers that the anti-picketing ordinance is illegal, being contrary to everything from the San Leandro city charter up to the constitution of the United States. The ordinance provides that if any individual as much as asks a friend not to patronize any certain establishment he could be fined \$300. The city charter provides that no ordinance shall be given first reading and passed in a single day, which is what happened to this one. "This ordinance forbids labor its fundamental right to strike and picket peacefully in the struggle to better its living conditions," stated Rust.

Secretary Wm. Spooner of the Central Labor Council, the last speaker, appealed for the rights of labor, asking that "this notorious ordinance be repealed." "Labor will not stand idly by and see its rights swept away," he declared, "but will fight for the repeal of this ordinance by every legal means possible—and illegal means if necessary."

POOR SPOKESMAN

The remarks of Patterson of the Laborers Union, spokesman for the Building Trades Council, were so weak that he almost wrecked the militancy of the appeal. "I represent the Building Trades Council and do not appear here in connection with any of these other organizations. As a representative of organized labor I am not going to demand that this anti-picketing ordinance be repealed, but request that this honorable body remove it from your books." He verbally patted the city attorney and chief of police because no building trades workers have been arrested while picketing some seab construction jobs.

Mr. Phillips, representing the Epic Club, with its membership of

1,400 and the Utopian Society, presented a petition demanding repeal which had been signed by many San Leandro citizens.

A representative of the Public Works and Unemployed Union said only that he had made the views of his organization known to the City Council when the demand for the repeal had previously been presented.

WHO'S A JACKASS?

The mayor then began to make excuses, saying "Of course, you understand that no organization or group of organizations can make this council change its mind but if we can be shown that we are wrong the ordinance will be repealed, for the only ones that will not change their minds are fools and jackasses."

He proposed to meet the representatives of the two A. F. of L. councils at a later date to "thrash the matter out."

Mr. T. O'Neal of the P.W.U.U. called the mayor's attention to the fact that the jobless union had started the whole protest and requested that his organization be represented at the proposed "thrashing out" session. Mr. Spooner supported this, stating that the P.W.U.U. has fraternal representatives on the Labor Council. The Mayor requested the jobless union select a representative. Mr. Noftz, delegate to the Council, was chosen.

DATE SET

The conference to further discuss repeal of the ordinance is scheduled for Wednesday evening, April 15th.

The campaign to repeal the act was instituted by the San Leandro local of the jobless union, and the Epics and Utopians promptly joined them in a united front on it. The Epics asked the Labor Council to join the fight and last night's mass delegation was the result.

SPRING FEVER

Spring fever, striking at the Young Communist League, is expressing itself in a rash of spitefully dancing next Saturday night, April 11, at Druid's Hall, 44 Page street, San Francisco.

Entertainment has been imported from across the bay for the occasion, and refreshments will be served. Proceeds are for the benefit of the Young Worker Admission 25 cents.

Trip to USSR is Won by L. A.

Prizes Awarded in Fund Drive Competition

During the Western Worker financial drive, which netted \$7,500 as sustaining fund for this year, each section was assigned a quota to raise.

Prizes were offered to those sections which oversubscribed their quotas the most, this to be judged by percentages. The sections were classified in groups for competition, based on their size.

In group A, Los Angeles and San Francisco sections competed for the capital prize—a free trip to the Soviet Union for the May Day celebration for a worker in the winning section. Los Angeles, with a quota of \$3,500, raised more than \$4,000, thus capturing the prize.

A Negro comrade, Clara Towns, was elected by the Goodyear subsection to take the trip. Goodyear outstripped all the other 14 L. A. subsections on their various quotas. Goodyear's assignment was \$900—which they raised 180 percent. They outdid their quota for subscriptions to the tune of 523 1/2 percent. Their subscription quota was 21.

A "victory social" in Los Angeles,

Monday evening, April 6th, celebrated the taking of the prize from San Francisco, and its award to Comrade Towns.

OTHER PRIZES AS FOLLOWS MIMEOGRAPH MACHINE AND EQUIPMENT: San Diego Section—Leading Unit. East Bay Section—Leading Unit. Sonoma Section—(Group D.) Sacramento Section—(Group E.) Merced Section—(Group F.)

COLLECTED WORKS OF LENIN, 8 volumes: Unit 1 Waterfront—Stevadore unit San Francisco (Raised over \$350 in campaign.)

SET OF 3 POPULAR BOOKS: Fort Bragg Unit Finnish Federation of California San Mateo Section San Bernardino Section Santa Barbara Section Bakersfield Section Contra Costa Section Nevada Section Unit 2 Mission, Unit 3 Downtown and Unit 4 North Beach, San Francisco Five outstanding Sub-sections in Los Angeles Section

Collected Big Bills For Big Business

To Speak Here Soon

"Does he (Charles Schwab of United States Steel Corporation) expect us to believe that 17,000,000 men in Europe and America are armed for knitting? . . .

"But don't let's wait until a general strike is necessary. FIGHT WAR NOW. GET OUT ON THE STREETS AND PARADE. DON'T LET THE WAR CROWD HAVE THE SHOW TO THEMSELVES."

—General Smedley Butler.

General Butler, who "spent 25 years with the biggest bill-collecting agency in the world, the U.S. Marines, before I began to wake up," will speak in San Francisco at Dreamland Auditorium on Wednesday, April 22, at 8 p.m. under the auspices of the American League Against War and Fascism. Also on the program for this mass meeting are George Kidwell and Harry Bridges, noted local union leaders.

General Butler is also scheduled to speak at meetings in San Jose Civic Auditorium on April 23rd under auspices of the Santa Clara Labor Council, and under league auspices in Los Angeles on April 24th.

Landowners Battle Mexican Cultural, Land Grant Policy

By MURRAY

MEXICO CITY, April 1.—An important example of the bitter and stubborn resistance of wealthy and reactionary Catholics to the educational efforts of the Cardenas government occurred yesterday in Ciudad Gonzalez in the state of Guanajuato when Catholics attacked an organizational meeting conducted by the government cultural mission, precipitating a riot in which thirteen people were killed and a score wounded.

In accordance with the provisions of the governmental "Six Year Plan" drawn up at the Conference of Queretaro and which among other reforms provides for a campaign of socialist education, cultural and educational missions have been sent to every city of importance in Mexico.

CARDENAS VISIT

The cultural mission sent to Ciudad Gonzalez consisted of a rural organizer, a physician, nurse, professors of physics, of music and art, and a motion picture operator. From the day of its arrival the mission was bitterly attacked by reactionary Catholics who falsely claimed that the chief purpose of the mission was to educate the people away from the church.

On the day preceding the riot President Cardenas paid a visit to Ciudad Gonzalez and in a speech delivered before the Catholics gathered in the parquial temple attempted to restore harmony between the groups by describing the educational and cultural purposes of the mission. But the Catholics continued their agitation stirring the people to fanatical hatred of the mission.

SLAUGHTER

On Sunday morning the mission held an organizational meeting in the Plaza. Catholics emerging from mass in the church which fronted the Plaza and shouting slogans of "Long Live Christ the King," "Down with Socialism!" attacked the meeting first with stones and clubs, later with firearms, provoking a bloody slaughter.

REIGN OF TERROR

In certain sections of the country armed bands of so-called "cristeros" have been organized and encouraged to attack, mutilate and even to murder rural school teachers of the government socialist schools. Many teachers are obliged to arm themselves for self-protection and go to and from the schools accompanied by guards supplied by the workers and peasants. In rural communities the wealthy land-owners also make use of the "cristeros" for the murder of peasant leaders in an effort to combat the government's policy of granting land to the peasants.

Collect all funds and lists to close out the Western Worker financial drive, and send them to 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, immediately.

Fascist Force and Violence Against Mexico Workers



The start of the fight in the Zocalo, principal square of Mexico City, on November 20, 1935, when mounted Gold Shirts attempted to join a parade of workers marching to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Mexican Revolution. When the union men refused to permit the fascists to march with them the latter assaulted the parade. In the foreground a Communist worker, with a club, is attempting to knock a fascist from his horse. The car, left center, was used by the workers to charge the mounted Gold Shirts.

Six fascists and three workers were killed in the affray.

HITLER LINK WITH GOLD SHIRTS EXPOSED BY COMMUNIST PAPER

By MURRAY

MEXICO CITY, April 6.—For a long time it has been suspected that the Mexican fascist organization—the so-called "Gold Shirts"—have been receiving direct aid from Hitler. There are over two thousand Germans in Mexico City, the greater part of whom are Nazis. At the time of the demonstration of November 20th, 1935, when workers were fired upon by the "Gold Shirts" it was revealed that German merchants forced many of their employees, on threat of dismissal, to join the fascist ranks, and to take part in the murderous attack which cost the lives of three workers.

What financial assistance Nicholas Rodriguez and his band of fascist gunmen receive from Hitler through the German Embassy is not yet known, but the fact that Rodriguez is in direct contact with the Nazi Party in Germany was revealed today through the columns of El Machete, Communist organ.

El Machete published a letter from Dr. Krumm-Heller, "correspondent for Spanish and Latin-American newspapers", Berlin, to General Don Nicholas Rodriguez "supreme chief of the ARM, Mexican National-Socialists". Addressing the fascist thug Rodriguez as "my distinguished General and esteemed colleague,"

Dr. Krumm-Heller writes, in part: "Yesterday I had the pleasure of sending you a package of booklets which contain the speech made by Fuhrer Hitler before the German congress, a speech which you will see is superbly beautiful and of great international political importance. It is a good idea to place these in the hands of our people—if you desire more I will send them."

"You have there your Nazi organizations which you call the 'Gold Shirts'. Those Mexicans who are Marxists, like your government, attack you . . . but some day the Jews who control the destiny of your beloved country will be ground into the dust."

A JOB IS NOT A RIGHT—IT'S A PRIVILEGE, WARNS UNION OIL

SANTA FE SPRINGS, Calif., March 30.—Threatening the workers if they fail to respond to the speed-up or if they attempt to organize, the Union Oil Company posted a notice in their shops here last week, just as the International Oil, Field & Gas Workers Union (A. F. of L.) called a mass meeting in Long Beach.

Knowing that the workers were preparing a fight to raise the present miserable wage standard, the company posted the notice under the heading "Get This!" and told the workers that "A job is not a right—it's a privilege."

The complete notice said: "March 1936. 'Shops, Tools and Transportation Department. 'What Is A Job? 'A job is not a right—it's a privilege. 'Few workers own a job—and this includes many presidents of big corporations. 'There are careful men hammer-

ing on the door of the careless worker's job.

"There are men burning with desire, who are looking for the job of the disloyal or disgruntled worker.

"There are men itching to work, who are ready for the job of the clock-watcher.

"Those who are slushed, indifferent, disloyal, unwilling or incompetent will last only the date of discovery—then others will take their places.

"What is a job? 'The question is worth considering."

JAPANESE YMCA MEN BARRED AT SWIMMING POOL

RED BAITING OFFICIAL DISCRIMINATES

SAN FRANCISCO, April 6.—Two young Japanese, members of the Young Men's Christian Association here, last week were denied admittance to the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool because of their nationality.

They had been attending a meeting of the Y Leaders' Club at 220 Golden Gate avenue when it was proposed that all present go swimming. The two young Japanese were barred at the entrance to the pool.

This is the same Y.M.C.A. whose official, Francis V. Keesling, president of the board of directors and well-to-do lawyer, indulged recently in a spread in the Hearst newspapers to the effect that "Communism would not be tolerated," at "his" Y.M.C.A. He stated that all Communists or radical youth would be expelled from the organization.

Keesling's Y.M.C.A. does not admit Filipino youth to membership.

Anti-Nazi Member Of Olympic Group Expelled In N. Y.

NEW YORK, April 8.—The American Olympic Committee has expelled Charles L. Ornstein of this city, one of the leaders in the fight to prevent the United States from entering in the Nazi-controlled Olympic Games at Berlin.

He had attacked the "amorphous and high-handed" methods of picking officials of the American boxing team. He was expelled with but one dissenting vote. Commenting on the action, Ornstein declared:

"Wortmann, who made the resolution to oust me, makes no secret of his approval of the policies of Nazi Germany. He has even appeared under the swastika in New York City."

Purges are commonplace in Nazi Germany. Are Brundage and Kirby (president and treasurer of the committee) taking lessons from Wortmann's master?

Collect all funds and lists to close out the Western Worker financial drive, and send them to 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, immediately.

EPICS SEEK TO WELD UNITY OF LABOR GROUPS

(Continued From Page 1)

platform that can organize and unite all our forces. Under this platform we shall discuss and determine the course of direct political action to defeat the candidates of reaction in the coming state and Congressional elections. We can best serve the interest of our people by uniting our strength. . . .

Organizations are entitled to two delegates for the first 50 members, and one additional for each 50 thereafter. However, no single organization is allowed to send more than 10 delegates.

The convention call is issued by the End Poverty League, Inc., 123 North Lake street, Los Angeles. The convention was authorized at the EPIC Convention held February 23, 1936.

FLP FORCES WIN

SEATTLE, Wash., April 6.—In a sweeping victory for the Farmer-Labor Party forces, the Washington convention of Commonwealth Federation has instructed the executive board to elect committees to investigate independent political movements in other states.

Red-baiting was smashed when the convention voted to clear away constitutional obstacles to affiliation by the Communist Party. Communists took an active part in the convention. Virtually the entire A.F. of L. delegation was united for a Farmer-Labor Party at the next Federation meet, slated for July Fourth.

LABOR VICTORY

DETROIT, Mich., April 8.—Mary Zuk, militant leader of last year's meat strike, was elected to the City Council of Hamtramck on the People's Ticket.

The election was hotly contested. Mrs. Zuk is the first labor candidate to be elected in Wayne County and the first woman to win a council seat. The People's Ticket comprised several workers' organizations, including the Communist Party.

FLP AT FLORIDA MEET

ORLANDO, Fla., April 7.—Rank and file delegates to the thirty-sixth annual convention of the Florida Federation of Labor forced the question of the Farmer-Labor Party to the floor here today and nipped in the bud a plan of the State WPA Administrator to capture the convention.

The convention was hardly under way when a large stranger reading "Thumbs down on Lynchism—he put the pinch on organized labor" was hung on one wall of the lounge room of the San Juan Hotel. Lynchism is the WPA Administrator.

JOBLESS CHEER

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

continue to be denied. Representation within the convention and on the new national executive board, under a recommendation made to the convention by present executive board, would be as follows: Workers Alliance, 17; National Unemployment Councils, 7; independents, 3.

Placed first on the agenda under legislation are the Frazier-Lundeen Unemployment and Social Insurance Act, the 30-hour week proposal of the American Federation of Labor and the American Youth Act.

We need worker correspondence from every part of the West Coast. Write about experiences and problems in field, factory and workshop.

APRIL 6th APPEAL TO AMERICAN PEOPLE MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF U.S. ENTRY IN LAST CONFLICT

NEW YORK, April 9.—Representing over 3,200,000 members and supporters of the American League Against War and Fascism, the National Bureau of the League, under the signature of Dr. Harry E. Ward, its National Chairman, last Monday issued an appeal to the American people, commemorating America's entrance to the World War on April 6, 1917. The appeal calls for organized opposition to the present Army and Navy budgets and to American shipments of oil and iron to Italy and Japan, and sternly denounces the violators.

The text of the appeal follows:

TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

"On April 6th nineteen years ago you were taken into the world war. You were told it was to end all war, to make the world safe for democracy.

"Today another war is almost here. It will soon be calling for your sons. Those who are forcing it have destroyed democracy in their own countries. If they, and their kind in other lands, win, they will destroy it everywhere."

HITLER EYES U.S.S.R.

"Hitler has marched into the Rhineland and placed his soldiers within two miles of the French forts. His army headquarters announce that the military center of Europe has shifted to Berlin. He offers new non-aggression treaties, admitting the Soviet Union, and proclaiming undying enmity against its government. He then asserts that eternal morality and the right of the Germans to judge their own cause are above all written obligations.

"Mussolini takes over the heavy industries in order that the State can effectively control them for the war that he declares is imminent. England forgets her re-

PEACE TALK AND WAR

"How will you keep out? Your treaties are worth no more than those that have been torn up in Europe. Two of the nations that signed the Kellogg Pact are now invading the territory of other peoples. Your Government, like the rest of them, is talking peace but preparing for war with unexamined power and speed. Did you authorize the present billion dollar budget for war preparations?

"Do you still remember the unknown soldier on this day that took him to his death? The only sincere tribute to him is to oppose the policies that are ordering the graves for millions more. On this day of bitter memory we call upon you to assemble and tell your Congress that you do not support its war preparations. Tell them that you want the trade with the war makers stopped, and stopped now. Stop war trade and war preparations and you will help to stop war.

AMERICAN MONEY

"From these events you cannot stand apart. You are already involved in them. American money helped Hitler to re-arm and Mussolini to equip his army. American oil is being used to kill unarmed Ethiopians. American scrap iron is feeding the Japanese munition factories. This is your disgrace. And your danger.

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6th Annual MAY PICNIC At Royal Palms Grove SAN PEDRO SUNDAY APRIL 26th Good Food Games Fishing Hiking Dancing Excellent Orchestra ADMISSION 25 CENTS Trucks leave 9 A.M. from Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring St.; Workers Center, 2706 Brooklyn Ave., Los Angeles.

Industrial Accidents; Comparisons Of The USSR And Other Nations

SAFETY ON THE JOB VERSUS PROFITS

INTRODUCTION

In the past five years (not to mention the years before) American labor has experienced a continual series of industrial disasters, the casualties of which match the records of warfare. To mention only a few: the Los Angeles Griffith Park canyon fire of 1933, the East Bay tunnel cave-in of last year, the great silicosis tragedy in the East, the burning of the Morro Castle, the grounding of the S.S. Iowa, Lumber camps, mines and mills pour forth a continual stream of broken and mangled bodies. The recent Johnstown flood experts aver, could have been prevented by foresight and planned precautions.

The fact that such disasters are increasing rather than diminishing in America lends particular significance to the following article.

By PROF. S. G. SHMERLING

(Director, Leningrad Institute for Labor Organization and Protection under the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions)

A considerable growth in industrial traumatism (injuries sustained in work) was recorded in capitalist countries during the post-war period of "rationalization." A survey made by the International Labor Bureau of the League of Nations revealed that under capitalism large increases in industrial output are effected at the expense of a maximum intensity of labor and a cruel expenditure of human labor power.

In Germany, for example, the number of accidents in industry generally during 1932 was almost double the total for 1924, the first year of capitalist rationalization, and in the building industry the number almost trebled, according to the statistics of the country's health publications. In Great Britain, the number of the fatal accidents among foundry workers increased from 55 per thousand in 1924 to 86 per thousand in 1929.

INJURIES DROP IN U.S.S.R.

Exactly the opposite situation is to be observed in the Soviet Union. During the First Five-Year Plan (1928-1932) the technical reconstruction of industry, the mechanization of heavy and dangerous labor, a rise in the technical proficiency and training of workers, and development of safety measures brought about a considerable decline in injuries in industry. In a number of industries it declined in that period nearly 50 percent, in machine building 48.8 percent, in the clothing industry 47.7 percent, and in the building industry of the All-Russian Republic by 52.4 percent. A steady drop in traumatism was registered in Leningrad industry from 1930 through 1935. For example, in the city's 40.5 percent in the shoe industry 51.9 percent and in the clothing industry 78.4 percent.

Now, moreover, the Stakhanov movement is opening up new prospects for the reduction of industrial traumatism. At the December plenum of the Central Committee of the Party last year, Sarikisov, secretary of the Donbas Party Committee, cited statistics obtained during a two months' observation of the Stakhanov workers and non-Stakhanovites. These statistics revealed that there is five times as much traumatism and 6.5 times as much sickness among non-Stakhanovites as among Stakhanovites.

EFFICIENT METHODS

The decline in industrial traumatism is to be explained by the fact that Stakhanov work methods are invariably accompanied by a scientific organization of labor and a rationalization of technological processes which increase labor efficiency. Stakhanov work methods discipline the entire workers' collective by eliminating unnecessary motion and guaranteeing that each individual works according to a definite, well-thought-out plan. Consequently, the new labor methods used by the Stakhanovites facilitate the elimination of many of the old causes of industrial traumatism. A considerable percentage of it, analysis indicates, is due to defects in organization of production, and also to insufficient mastery of safety technique and improper handling of instruments and machinery by the workers

ANOTHER COMPARISON WORTH CONSIDERING



Long lines of waiting customers, food shortages and high prices are a thing of the past in the Soviet Union. Today's Soviet housewife shops in modern, sanitary stores which compare favorably with the finest markets of America. The pictures above indicate price reductions which have been continuous during the past year. The years of hardship which the Soviet people were devoting all energy to developing the basic industries and creating the industrial apparatus necessary to supply a higher standard of living for the whole population. And these industries today are owned by the people themselves and not by private capitalists.

A Dirty Trick on Matt Schmidt

THE BUZZARDS PLAY A "JOKE" IN SAN QUENTIN

INTRODUCTION

This is the eleventh of a series of articles written exclusively for the Western Worker by a man just released from San Quentin penitentiary. Each article is complete in itself.

MATT SCHMIDT AND THE PRISON

You seldom hear the name of Matt Schmidt in connection with class-war prisoners. Yet he has been active in the cause of labor for more than a quarter of a century. Matt has been able, with the help of many sincere friends, to gather a library of rare and unusual books. Most of his time is spent reading.

He talks with few prisoners. His long years behind walls taught him the value of silence and a lack of confidence in those not connected actively with the class war. His dry wit, choice, and apt remarks evoke spasms of convulsive laughter among the class-war prisoners whenever he talks with them.

He was arrested in connection with the Los Angeles "Times" case after a chase which lasted four years. A partner of the McNamara brothers, he was known up and down the land as a class-conscious worker, one who could be depended upon in a pinch.

BILL HEYWOOD

Matt was one of the few close friends of the late Bill Heywood. They had many things in common. Once as they strolled down Broadway, Bill said: "Matt, I'll bet the Burns Agency would give a pretty penny to know where we are right now." Matt always laughed. He found Heywood excellent company. "The hell of it is, they have one eye the best of us. But our one eye is better than both of theirs." Bill Heywood had lost his eye when a child; Matt lost one eye years later. He wears glasses to conceal the injury, although his glass eye is hardly noticeable.

One incident will show the humor behind the large body of this veteran labor fighter. I was working in the jute mill. Some new machines were being installed and

themselves—shortcomings which the Stakhanov movement is doing much to eliminate.

The Second Five-Year Plan, ending in 1937, calls for a 33 percent reduction in sickness and elimination of industrial traumatism in the basic branches of Soviet industry. Side by side with the increased attention paid to safety technique and labor protection, Stakhanov work methods, by accelerating the tempo of decline of industrial traumatism, are also helping to create the conditions necessary for its complete abolition. In all branches of labor activity in the Soviet Union, the Stakhanov movement is the road leading to the abolition of industrial traumatism.

Matt was there, working hard, as usual, supervising the installation. He called me over and had me help him. I worked like a slave trying to keep up with him. One machine installed, Matt switched on the full power. The belt slipped and the motor stalled. The machine, a jute breaker, would not budge. Matt wiped the water away from his glass eye. Critically he observed the machine. "The horses," he said, musing, "must be larger over there."

"What the hell have horses got to do with this?" I asked. "Well," he said, in that slow, drawing speech, "the makers of this machine over in Scotland, say this machine will run with ten horsepower. I've got a fifty-horse motor on it and it won't move. Therefore the Scotch horses must be larger than ours."

FINE MECHANIC

When the prison wanted a machine installed they always send for Matt. If a new construction is contemplated they consult Matt before proceeding. For Matt knows every nook and cranny of the prison. He had been convict foreman of many shops, and his unusual knowledge of machinery is a valuable asset even in prison.

He designed and built a washer for cleaning utensils in the general mess hall. A salesman for such a machine inspected it after Matt had it finished and running. He was amazed at its efficiency. "My company has spent thousands of dollars trying to make a machine like that," he told Matt. "I wish we had a man like you. You certainly keep abreast of technical improvements."

For many years Matt had been in charge of the prison fire department. When the Sluicer (Captain New of the Yard) had Jim McNamara's cell raided he decided to bear down a little on Matt. He could not get too raw. Matt's usefulness to the prison was something he could not ignore. Matt saw the pressure coming. He asked for a change of work. It was granted.

THE DIRTY TRICK

Previous to this a glaring example of the disreputable, and base character of the prison board was given Matt. How such a body of human beings could bring themselves to such vile, treacherous infamy is beyond belief. They, like others of their buzzard-like creatures, think they put over a "fast one" on Matt.

I want to state here that I knew rapers, incesters, and brutal murderers during my prison time, and I don't know one who would have stooped so low to pull the "fast one" which the prison board put over on Matt Schmidt. When the roll-call of meanest tricks is heard, the one by the prison board on Matt will be far ahead of all

the others. I have a strong constitution but I nearly vomited when I heard the details. It reminded me of buzzard's puke.

The prison board sent word to Matt Schmidt they would "consider" giving him a parole if—HE COULD FIND A JOB OUT OF THIS COUNTRY. This gave Matt a laugh. He would be useful anywhere in the world. He sent word to his friends to get him a job outside the nation. Some friend cabled the Soviet Union that Matt could be released on parole if he could find asylum in a foreign land. Frankly the Foreign Office of the U.S.S.R. cabled assent. They wanted a technical, capable worker like Matt Schmidt. WHO WOULDN'T? They offered to pay all expenses, legal or otherwise for Matt's release, to sign all the necessary documents and to facilitate the matter in every way possible. They cabled advice to a special representative to visit Matt and obtain all the details.

HIGH HOPES

Matt was jubilant at the response to his request. At last he would soon be free, at last he would go to a nation where a worker is appreciated and there try out some of the many inventions he had perfected during his eighteen years in prison. He laughed often, cracked his dry, poker-face jokes. Everybody in the prison, guards and convicts, wished him luck. They knew he deserved his freedom. If anyone had toiled diligently for the prison, Matt was the one.

He prepared all the papers, submitted them to the prison board and awaited their decision. Weeks passed and no word came. Ten thousand miles away the Soviet Union awaited word from Matt while he waited on the prison board. Finally they made their momentous decision. Calling Matt before them they told him bluntly: "We have decided not to give you a parole."

And you wonder why I call the prison board "buzzards and jackals"? If they had brutally murdered Matt I would consider it far above such an act of cowardly shame as their treatment of him.

Truthfully Jim McNamara says: "THE CAPITALISTS PUT US HERE, THE WORKERS WILL GET US OUT."

Can we let such valiant fighters as McNamara and Schmidt think we have forgotten them? Hitler has been preparing for war for three years with the knowledge and aid of other powers. "Lacking the experience and technique of refining oil for her air force" (Germany's), the American Socony-Vacuum Company has been building a refinery in Hamburg to be finished this year, "which will convert inferior oil into aviation lubricants," according to an article by Louis Fischer in the Nation, 3-11-36.

Cunha Continues a Slippery Course in Mooney Hearing

FICKERT HOLDS STAND 2 DAYS

SAN FRANCISCO—The high light of the state's response to Mooney's habeas corpus petition lies in the cross-examination of Edward A. Cunha, which occupied the first part of the week of March 29th, and that of Charles M. Fickert himself, which consumed the remainder of the week and is still continuing.

Cunha continued to be a vicious and slippery witness. He insisted on saying that he believed Oksman, McDonald, and the Edeans implicitly, whatever their mutual contradictions in testimony. He wouldn't believe Officer W. H. Smith or Chief of Police Peterson of Oakland (who testified to the Edeans' complete change of testimony between their first and second interviews with the San Francisco authorities) under oath, they were just tools of Fremont Older's. And then the aggressive Mr. Cunha got neatly caught in his own trap, and involuntarily proved one of the chief contentions of the petitioner. Queried about Smith's story that he had gone to Fickert with the evidence of the Edeans' perjury, and that Fickert had told him he would "make a damned good witness for the defense," Cunha said that he didn't believe it—he knew it wasn't so, because "Fickert said it wasn't." Had he ever had a conversation with Fickert in which Fickert had told him about his conversation with Smith? No, he couldn't recall it.

And then Fickert read to him his own sworn testimony during the Grand Jury hearing on Oksman, in which Cunha had reported the conversation himself in full in 1917! In other words, here was complete knowledge of subornation of perjury, in 1917, on Cunha's part.

Confronted with this inescapable discrepancy between his testimony in 1917 and in 1936, Cunha lost control a minute and made the highly suggestive rejoinder that he couldn't remember details, he "hadn't ironed the thing out carefully with Mr. Fickert!"

Another place where Cunha showed up very badly was in relation to Martin Swanson. At the Mooney trial Swanson was in court when Weinburg told of the ex-Pacific Gas and Electric detective's attempt to bribe him; Judge Griffin told Cunha to put Swanson on the stand, and Cunha refused to do so and merely put on a policeman to say that he "hadn't heard" Swanson say to Weinburg, after his arrest, "I said I'd get you, and I did." Asked why he had taken this course, he answered that he "wasn't a bit afraid" to put Swanson on the policeman (Ernest Gable) "did just as well," and "it was apparent that the court was wrong in its ruling." As for Judge Griffin, he was just "imposed upon and stampeded," and would never have been so affected by the Rigall letters if he had "known about the \$10,000 deal" (the \$10,000 the defense was prepared to pay Rigall for the letters, but which actually it never had to pay, as Rigall handed them over free after Edwin McKenzie persuaded him to do so).

Compared with Cunha, still alert and fanatical, Fickert, the chief of the frame-up gang, presents a painful appearance, a physical and mental wreck. His direct examination took only two days of well-coached questions and answers, but even so—he categorically denied every charge made against him, and claimed either never to have known, or denied outright the testimony of, every witness for the petitioner—he made one or two damaging admissions before the cross-examination began. One was in saying first that Swanson had no authority, was just there to take orders, and then volunteering, to show what a fine man Swanson was, that he "had" "stopped the arrest" of a suspect named McAlpine—naturally, since no one was wanted who couldn't be linked up with Mooney.

He also acknowledged that he had first heard of Oksman, not through Frank Woods, the Durkee station agent, but from Eugene Watchhorst, then district attorney of Sacramento County. He insisted that the Kansas City affidavit by Oksman was never asked for by the defense—though the transcript of the Grand Jury in the Oksman case showed that Mr. Clarke did ask for it and that Fickert had promised to deliver it. (Cunha's "out" on this was that they didn't ask often enough.)

The cross-examination of Fickert, just begun, has one main

THE POLICY OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY IN REGARD TO THE STUDENT MOVEMENT AND THE SUPPRESSION CAMPAIGNS OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK

YOUTH CRASHES THE GATE



During the historic student demonstrations in Peking last December, the young people broke through one of the heavily guarded gates of the old walled city and entered to register their demand for resistance against the Japanese "autonomy" movement in the Northern provinces. The picture above shows them pouring through the wall. The students with bicycles have come from outlying points.

"Don't You Think Five Years Long Enough in Jail Just for Nothing?"

THAT'S WHAT OLEN MONTGOMERY IS ASKING AMERICA

SCOTTSBORO BOYS APPEAL FOR AID IN WINNING FREEDOM AFTER FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT

NEW YORK, April 8—On the eve of new trials which threaten their lives once more, isolated completely from the outside world, with the terrifying experience of what happened to Ozie Powell at the close of the fourth Scottsboro trials last January, the Scottsboro Boys are appealing desperately for aid and support.

Letters received by friends indicate that the boys, grown to young manhood behind prison bars and in the shadow of the electric chair, are eager to have news from those who believe in their innocence to bolster up their courage.

"I AM GOING TO DIE IN JAIL"

"I am sick of jail," writes Willie Robertson, "I sometimes feel I am going to die in jail. Do you all know how long I been in here? I think it is time for us to be out."

"I BEEN IN JAIL SO LONG JUST FOR NOTHING"

"Do you really believe I will ever be free again," writes half blind Olen Montgomery, "It sure don't seem like it to me. I been in jail so long just for nothing until it is about to run me insane. I can't make it another year in this awful place. I have already been in five years. Don't you think that's long enough to stay in jail for nothing?"

Haywood Patterson and Andy Wright repeatedly ask for letters from friends on the outside. Andy says he wonders what it feels like to walk under the open sky. Haywood wants to hear about what is happening in the world. The

Scottsboro boys are eager for letters, messages, correspondence.

DEFENSE COMMITTEE

The Scottsboro Defense Committee, composed of the American Civil Liberties Union, the International Labor Defense, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the League for Industrial Democracy, the Church League for Industrial Democracy (Episcopal), the Methodist Federation of Social Service, and scores of sponsoring organizations and individuals of national prominence, yesterday, announced that it is requesting all friends of the Scottsboro defense to write messages of comfort and assurance to the boys at the Jefferson County Jail, Birmingham, Alabama. The defense committee also announced that a drive for a \$10,000 defense fund is now in progress in preparation for the new trials starting on or about April 17. All funds are received by the treasurer, Colonel William Schiefel, at 112 East 19th Street, New York City.

(which the state itself says are unavailable). The graft defendants concerned were three: Patrick Calhoun, president of the United Railroads; Thornwall Mullally, his chief assistant, the man who first "put the finger" on Mooney; and William Abbott, the company's chief counsel, the man to whom Swanson took Billings when he was trying to bribe him to implicate Mooney in the San Bruno tower dynamiting. These were the men Fickert was elected to save, and tried hard to save—in the end was instrumental in saving; and these associates of his were the fountain-head of the framing of Mooney and his co-defendants.

When the session closed Fickert was being put over the jumps on another matter—the presence of the district attorney and his staff at arrests of defendants and at searches and seizures. This he claimed was the usual procedure in important cases. Confronted by Capt. Matheson's testimony that "in case the district attorney took the case right out of the hands of the police," he would not say that Matheson lied, but said weakly that Matheson—head of the bomb bureau, closely in touch with everything that happened—was "mistaken."

The peace policy of the Soviet Union is the best guarantee for the peace of the world. Rally all support behind it.

Comrades Mao Tse Dun, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Chinese Soviet Republic, and Wang Dya Chan, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs, recently granted a historic interview to a correspondent of the Red China News Agency. This interview was broadcast by the radio station of the Chinese Soviet government.

In their statements, the two Chinese Soviet leaders covered the whole subject of the relations of the Chinese Communists to the struggle for national liberation in China.

We publish below Mao Tse Dun's statement on the student movement.

STUDENT MOVEMENT

Correspondent: What is the Soviet government's opinion concerning the present students' movement for the deliverance of the nation?

Mao Tse Dun: Our academic youth has always played a proud and glorious part in the history of the national-revolutionary movement. This time their action is particularly valuable. These young people are the sons and daughters of the great Chinese people; they are its hope and its future and we bow down with love and pride before their steadfastness and resolve. We are filled with profound grief and fraternal solidarity in the face of the sacrifices they have made—and burning indignation against those who have been the cause of these sacrifices!

The Soviet government is resolved to give all the support it is commanded to this students' movement for the salvation of their native land. The entire academic youth in our Soviet Districts is mobilized for solidarity action. We call upon all workers and peasants—the entire people in town and country—to unite and join in the student's struggle for national defense!

The students' movement is a reflection of the desire of the whole people for the deliverance of the country. The slogan raised by the academic youth—"Stop the internal strife! Unite in the actions for deliverance!"—genuinely represents the uniform desire of the Chinese people.

"WAR OF EXTERMINATION"

The war still raging in the interior of China is what is called the "war of extermination" against Communism, conducted by Chiang Kai-shek with all the military forces at his disposal. The Red Army is the only resolute, courageous body of troops, knowing what they are doing, at the command of our people against Japanese imperialism. It goes without saying that we shall never allow Chiang Kai-shek to lay a finger on it! The entire people in the Soviet districts constitute a resolute militant unit for carrying on the anti-Japanese struggle.

I solemnly declare here, in the name of the Chinese Soviet government: If Chiang Kai-shek or any other army ceases hostilities against the Red Army, then the Chinese Soviet government will immediately order the Red Army to stop military action against him or the army concerned. The Red Army will then, together with the previously hostile army, carry on with all its strength the anti-Japanese war and thus fulfill the desires of the Chinese people and its student movement.

(Next issue: Mao Tse Dun speaks against Japanese imperialism.)

SOVIET GIRL IS SHIP'S HEROINE

MURMANSK, U.S.S.R., March 11.—Thirty seamen of the Soviet steamer Irtysh owe their lives to the heroism of their girl radio operator, Itta Neiman, aged 21, who stuck by her post four days and nights without any rest until the ship was rescued.

The Irtysh, bound from Copenhagen to Murmansk, had encountered three violent storms, had lost both anchors, and was completely out of fuel when rescued.

Itta sat by her radio for four days keeping communications with shore and two rescue ships, while the Irtysh drifted helplessly amid snow-storms and a thick, milky fog.

Party Life

DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Comrades:

There is a lot of our propaganda work that is done on a hit and miss basis. We aim blindly, hope to hit the target, but never examine the target to see what score we made. In the matter of selling literature there is no need for such a method of work, as we are rapidly proving in the North Beach Sub-Section.

A few months ago we began a tabulation of the names and addresses of all sympathizers in our territory. This was done, not by directives through the section committee but by personal contact with the individual comrades in the units.

FOLLOW-UP

Follow up was carried on in this manner: the sub-section literature agent visited these contacts systematically, carrying with him the Western Worker, the Sunday Worker, the New Masses, pamphlets, and even books. It was a matter of ringing door bells, asking for the individual, and when speaking to him stating that he had been given his name and address as a person who might be interested in buying radical literature.

Here, comrades, it can be said that few of us realize the respect that sympathizers have for party members and the party which they represent. In but a few cases the visitor found it difficult to break away from the house and almost never without a sale or promise of a sale "after payday." In most cases the sympathizer agreed to take the Western Worker for a month, delivered to the door paying 25 cents either at the beginning or the end of the month. In each case the visiting comrade displayed what he had for sale in much the same manner as a "Fuller Brush Man" displays his brushes, allowing the contact to thoroughly acquaint himself with all the material.

In each case it was brought out that the sale of the Western Worker was the most important thing and that if the sympathizer knew of anyone who might be interested we would be glad to visit him. Many new contacts were obtained in this manner. Unlike comrades within the party, these people almost always tell you where they work, the conditions on the job etc., which gives the visitor an opportunity to give advice, acquaint them with the union within their trade, if there is one, and also give them some knowledge of the Communist party and how it functions.

Many of these people, although not yet ready to join the party are nevertheless only too glad to do what they can for the movement. Their homes are sometimes available for unit meetings. Some are expert typists, artists, some are grocers who could donate food for affairs etc.

Because the Western Worker was delivered personally to them rather than through the mail real friendships have been made bringing these people closer to the movement, selling them other literature, etc. It must be said that in many cases the comrade visiting these contacts learned more as to how to approach these sympathizers than the sympathizers learned about the party.

In January the total literature sales in North Beach amounted to more than \$50. In February more than \$60. And in March well over \$70 including subscriptions to periodicals such as the New Masses.

North Beach Sub-section Lit. Agent.

A SNAPPY COMEBACK FOR G. B. SHAW IN RUSSIAN

Story has recently come to light about George Bernard Shaw's last visit to the Soviet Union. Walking along the banks of the Volga, the playwright came across a 12-year-old girl struck up a conversation with her. For hours, they strolled along together, when the child, realizing how late it was, said she would have to hurry home.

"If your mother scolds you for staying out so late," Shaw said, "tell her you have been walking along the banks of the river with George Bernard Shaw."

"Thank you very much, comrade," said the youngster. "And if your wife scolds you for being out so late, you tell her you've been walking along the banks of the river with Katherina Ivanovna Fyodorovitch." ...

Behind the Headlines --- Building Houses With Roosevelt

MORTGAGE FIRMS ARE ONLY ONES TO PROFIT FROM HOUSING PLANS

The Road From PWA To FHA Is Strewn With Billions—For the Bankers

It is early in 1933. Roosevelt and the brand new "New Deal" has just discovered there is a tremendous housing shortage. The discovery rates headlines:

U. S. SLUM CLEARING PROJECTED—GOVERNMENT UNIT TO BUILD LOW RENTAL HOUSING.

A year of evictions and mortgage foreclosures passes. It is 1934 and once again the headlines shout:

PRESIDENT TO PUSH HOUSING FOR POOR.

Yet another year passes and 1935 is ushered in with appropriate headlines:

U. S. PROMISES MILLIONS FOR HOUSING.

Now it is 1936 and only yesterday the papers were headlining: GOVERNMENT ABANDONS HOUSING PROGRAM.

The story of what happened to the government's fanciful series of schemes to put the working class of the country into cozy, flower-gardened, low-rental cottages and frigidair-equipped apartments is typical of the system which gave birth to the proposition.

THE PWA FLOP

First New Deal housing scheme flowered in the garden of the Public Works Administration where the sum of \$150,000,000 was earmarked for "slum clearance and low-cost housing projects in the interests of unemployment relief and recovery." (Statement of Policy of the Public Works Administration, Hous. Corp. Bulletin No. 7395).

But in 1935, \$93,000,000 was transferred from the above fund to the Federal Relief Administration while a great part of the remainder was still unspent. The same year it was revealed the PWA had started exactly seven housing projects through loans to private building firms. Rents, when buildings were completed, averaged \$10 per room and barely more than 3,000 families were provided with living quarters.

At about the same time Secretary of Commerce Roper estimated the country needed at least 5,000,000 habitable dwellings. On May 4, 1935, the New York Times reported that "only the small sum of seven million dollars has been spent, (on housing projects) and this largely for land purchases."

So much for New Deal housing scheme No. 1.

THE HOLC FOR BANKS

In 1933 also was set up the Home Owners Loan Corporation. This agency took over mortgages (from the banks) gave good 4 per cent negotiable securities in return and left the city home-owner, whom the HOLC ostensibly was to aid, in debt to the government—and still unable to pay. Congress voted, in all, \$3,000,000,000 to the HOLC.

What happened to the money? Well, if we take the word of John H. Fahey, president of the HOLC, we learn that "more than 90 per cent of this money has gone to the commercial banks, savings banks, insurance companies, building and loan associations, and mortgage companies."

That was housing scheme No. 2, and it worked very well—for the bankers and the rest of the land-grabbing tribe. Meanwhile borrowers from the HOLC, many of whom had been required to keep up interest to the banks, now must pay not only interest but a substantial sum on the principal. Moreover Mr. Fahey threatened immediate foreclosure for those who failed to make these payments promptly.

AND NOW FHA

Another agency was established—the Federal Housing Administration—which operates in much the same manner as the HOLC. It puts plenty of near-defunct banks back on a paying basis but fails to help the home-owner. It is a private institution which does lending and takes the profit. And it guarantees its member banks and mortgage companies against loss.

The Federal Housing Administration will insure loans up to \$10,000,000 each to private, limited dividends corporations planning low-rent housing projects. The nature of these projects is revealed in a recent statement by the American Federation of Labor Housing Committee, which, in part, declares:

\$12.50 PER ROOM

"Finally, the FHA has not provided, nor can it provide, any housing for low-income families. It has insured mortgages throughout the whole country on only 640 houses available to

families with incomes of \$1500 or less. Its only completed 'large' scale project (Colonial Village, Washington, D. C.) rents at \$12.50 per room—in spite of the fact that building labor received about half the prevailing wage rate in its construction."

Yet, when the Roosevelt Administration first began to talk about "slum clearance" and "low-rental housing projects," Mr. Joseph P. Day, prominent realty man, said of the housing program, "I must frankly call it communistic or socialistic."

Today the United States Government is the largest real-estate interest in the country. Through its "housing program" it has succeeded in halting an alarming drop in real estate values. Is it logical to believe that the government will voluntarily upset this market through clearing the slums and building low-rental housing, now or at any time in the future? (To be Continued.)

A RENEGADE Workers Warned FRANK DEUBER

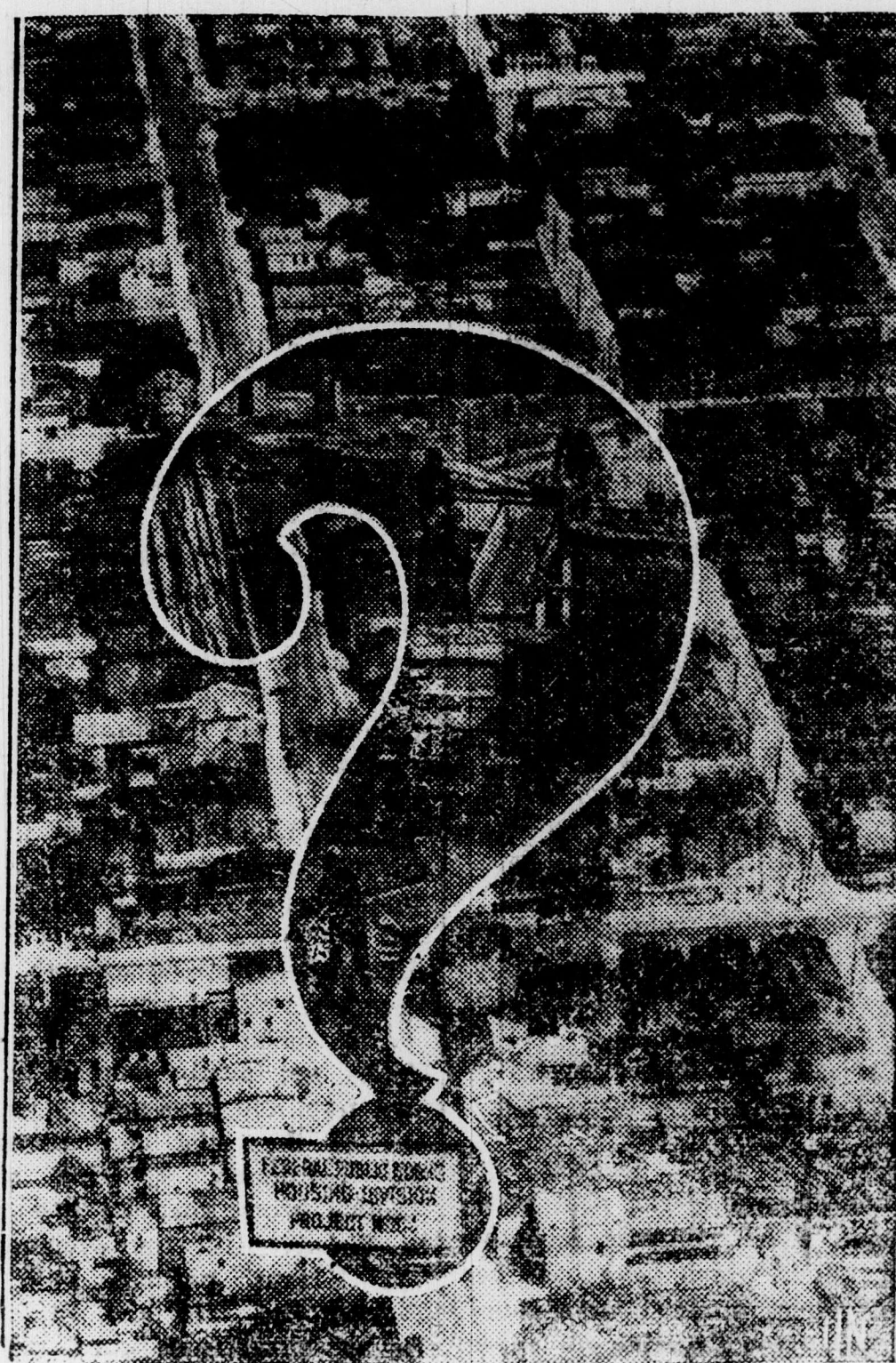
FRESNO, Calif.—Frank Deuber, expelled from the Communist Party, who is still masquerading under a liberal hood, has been scabbing against the strike at the Valley Bedding Co. here and acting as a bodyguard for Mr. Fisher, a scab-herding foreman at the plant.

Frank Deuber was expelled from the Communist Party in May, 1933 for disruptive activity, sabotage, and keeping money collected for dues from other Party members.

This statement of the Fresno section committee of the Communist Party is for the purpose of clarifying for all Party members, sympathizers and others who are interested, our position on Frank Deuber. This scab has not been a member of the Communist Party for three years and has nothing whatsoever in common with the Party. The Fresno section Committee has officially offered its services to the striking workers at the Valley Bedding Co., and is supporting the Strike 100 percent.

Section Committee, Communist Party, Fresno, Calif.

SLUMS ARE PROFITABLE



They furnish fertile breeding grounds for crime and disease. But wage-workers and unemployed can't afford higher rents for decent living quarters. "Ham" Fish, one of America's most torrid super-patriots and a friend of Hearst, owns many slum dwellings in New York City.

Fresno Furniture Workers Demand Union Recognition and Wage Raise

FRESNO, Calif.—Over 50 workers in the Valley Bedding Co. plant have joined the Furniture Workers' Industrial Union (AFL) and are striking for higher wages and union recognition.

The Valley Bedding Co. has been making a vain attempt to recruit scabs in Los Angeles, but has so far been able to get only 14. Most of these struck for more money so that only 7 or 8 are working.

Mr. Ostrow of the Valley Bedding Co. has stated he does not want to deal with elected representatives of the union but will deal with the workers. This is the old story that bosses raise whenever workers strike for higher wages and union recognition.

Fisher, foreman in the furniture department, has a long record of strike breaking activity, and as a stool pigeon. In Chicago in 1921 when the furniture workers were striking, Fisher turned states' evidence and was directly responsible for the conviction of two union members, according to Mr. Demer, an Eastern aide of the union who is now here.

Fisher was convicted of highway robbery in Los Angeles, and

Juicy School Board Graft Gets Trimmed

LOS ANGELES, April 5.—Forced by pressure from many organizations throughout Los Angeles, the Board of Education today had moved to secure a 50 per cent reduction in the previous exorbitant rent of \$108,000 per year for offices in the Chamber of Commerce building.

The board will now pay \$34,000 per year for the rent of the offices.

Believing that the Chamber of Commerce was not only influencing decisions of the board relative to student's rights, but also getting exorbitant rent in the bargain, many organizations have demanded that the board move to other quarters.

SELBY SMELTER OWNERS EMPLOY SPIES TO HOUND UNION WORKERS

Plant Is Infested With Stool Pigeons As Industrial Disease Hits Employees

By A SMELTER WORKER

SELBY, Calif.—Last year the workers in the Gugenheim-Morgan controlled smelter plant went on strike and won the right to bargain collectively, besides other small gains. The plant is now about 95 per cent organized in the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, Local 5.

FILIPINO GROUP FETES BIRTHDAY AT SANTA MARIA

By A Worker Correspondent

SANTA MARIA, Calif.—The members of the Filipino Labor Union and their friends celebrated the third anniversary of the Union on Sunday, April 5 in the Union Labor Temple at Gaudalupe.

Stirring appeals were made by the officers for closer cooperation with the Union and it was pointed out it is expected new branches will be started soon. A fine moving picture was part of the entertainment; it showed Filipino workers coming to this country only to find that freedom, equality and opportunities to a decent standard of living are impossible for all working people.

It was through this realization that the Filipino Labor Union was born and the organization is willing to cooperate with American and Mexican unions in the fight for just opportunities for all workers.

SPEAKERS

Mr. Mensalves, general secretary of the Union, brought out the fact that Filipino workers in this country are disfranchised and consequently have not interested themselves in politics. He warned them that this situation should be remedied as all developments in this country have their effects on the Islands and on Filipino workers here.

Attorney Carey McWilliams spoke on the Criminal Syndicalism Law and pointed out that the Filipino Labor Union is the only union operating at present in the agricultural fields.

Following several musical selections the meeting was adjourned to reconvene that evening at a dance.

Meanwhile, the Fruit and Vegetable Workers Union, Truck Drivers, Barbers, Carpenters, Butchers and Culinary Workers are planning a joint picnic at Pioneer Park on Easter Sunday for the purpose of uniting the organized workers of Santa Maria Valley. Two candidates—for city clerk and city council, run by the Vegetable Workers Union will speak.

Ever since the strike the plant has been infested with stool pigeons and spies. The men seem to think that even though the boss has broken the agreement many times they must not strike till the present agreement is ended, but must suffer in silence.

One of the worst stool pigeons is the "safety engineer" George Mores. He circulates about the plant and picks out the most active union men. He has them fired on the pretense that they "have been careless. It seems strange that all the "careless" men belong to the union and are especially among those that participated in the strike last year.

COMPANY RAT

Another vicious stool pigeon is Slim Winters. This rat joined the union during the strike for the sole purpose of handing over to the company the names of union men. His dirty work was discovered and he fled with his family to Montana. When things cooled off a bit the company sent him transportation money to bring his family back to Selby. He is now a straw boss and lives in a company owned house continuing his spying for the boss.

A foreman by the name of Cooper is another stool pigeon. He reported one of the workers to be a Communist and had him fired. The union grievance committee took up the case and after a three month fight finally succeeded in having this man reinstated.

Charles Gray was a foreman before the strike and scabbed during the entire strike. He is still a foreman and stool pigeon. He persuaded his son to become a scab on the promise that he would be made a foreman. The young man took his father's advice. However he has never been made a foreman and now he is an outcast as not a man will even speak to him.

SAW-BONES

The company doctor is paid by the workers through the compulsory deduction of \$1 per week from the workers pay envelope. However he serves the masters well. Recently he operated upon a worker for appendicitis in order to cover up the fact that this man was suffering from lead poisoning which is an industrial disease and might draw compensation. The president of the union is suffering from the same trouble and the doctor tried to force an appendix operation upon him too.

This is a war industry and the yard is piled high with many thousands of tons of lead. Last year in spite of the strike which had the plant tied up for several weeks this smelter cleared over one million dollars in clear profits. The agreement states that if the price of lead should go up the men are to receive a corresponding raise in wages. The price of lead has been boosted several times but not the wages of the men.

What is needed in this plant is job action such as is carried out by the I.L.A. The workers must rid themselves of these rats and insist that the boss carry out his side of the agreement or face the consequences of a strike. There are over 400 men in the plant and with a well disciplined job steward system they can force their powerful bosses to live up to agreements.

OKLA. FOR C. I. O. OKLAHOMA CITY, April 1.—Oklahoma oil workers showed their approval of the efforts of the Committee for Industrial Organization by adopting a resolution commending their president, Harvey C. Fremming, for affiliating with the Committee.

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SHIP SCALERS DANCE SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 779 VALLEJO STREET. ADMISSION 25c. BENEFIT OF WORKERS PRESS.

Reserve this date! Annual Workers May Day Picnic, May 10, 1936 at Varsity Park Picnic Playgrounds (3 miles west of Menlo Park). Enjoy this picnic, which will last till midnight. Barbecued dinner, Italian, Greek, Chinese, Armenian and Russian dishes. Baseball game, foot races, singing, dancing. Sing around the evening bonfire. Admission 25c, roundtrip transportation 25c. Trucks leave 121 Haight Street from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

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Los Angeles

Workers forum, 230 S. Spring St., L. A. Every Sunday night—8 p.m. Admission ten cents.

MAY PICNIC—All day Sunday, April 26th, at Royal Palms Grove, San Pedro. SAVE THE DATE!

MOONEY-BILLINGS-SCOTT'S-BORO branch, I.L.A., Entertainment at Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring Street, April 24, 8 p.m. Come and hear the newly elected officials of the district. Keep the date open!

ANNUAL I.L.R. SPRING PICNIC, May 17, at Verdugo Country Club. Keep date open!

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Why not utilize the combination subscription offers we have made in recent issues. For instance, Two dollars for one year subscription, sent in before May 1st, entitles you to a FREE copy of Earl Browder's brilliant new book, "What is Communism?"

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Again the militant labor movement on the Pacific Coast strengthens its fighting press. On May 1st the Western Worker becomes a

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bigger and better paper. Two pages will be added, which means more news and more features.

Workers, friends of the labor movement, sections and units of the Communist Party, trade unions, fraternal organizations, should see to it that they are represented in the first 8-page issue with their greetings. Clip the coupon below, fill it out and mail it to reach us by April 23rd.

THE MAY DAY ISSUE

The Party sections must show some speed in getting in their orders for the big May Day edition of the Western Worker. It is planned to introduce the bigger and better paper to the public of the Pacific Southwest with 100,000 copies of this issue. Which means every Communist, every sympathizer and every militant worker must take extraordinary measures to get large quantities and see to

their effective distribution.

The May Day edition will be a 4-page, regular sized newspaper with an 8-page tabloid insert. It will contain well planned, short, lively articles on the history of May Day, on the Epic program, the Town-end movement, the Farmer-Labor Party and other vital issues facing us.

If you haven't sent in your order yet then we ask you to do so immediately. In planning our end of such an undertaking we need your immediate cooperation to insure the success of the project.

In beginning the drive to double your section's bundle order what steps have you taken? Write us of your plans, what results you got and how you are improving them?

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A Book to Read as You Please

REVIEW OF DURANTY'S EFFORT

Foreign Correspondent in U.S.S.R.

"I WRITE AS I PLEASE." By Walter Duranty; New York; Simon and Schuster, 1935. 342 pp. \$3.00.

To write as one pleases must be the strong desire in the heart of every bourgeois journalist. To be able to describe events that interest you, without a thought of what might interest your reader or your boss—must be the earnest dream of every newspaper man who has the slightest social consciousness. That this is all but impossible is admitted by Duranty.

To really write as you please, even in a book, without open restrictions, means either to have no concern with whether or not your book is published or else simply to "please" to write that which you know will be well received. No author can be so isolated from society that his work is free from the influence of the ideology of the audience for whom it is written. Thus to expect something different in this book from that which we find in the articles which Duranty writes for his newspaper is to be a bit naive.

However, as a means of forming a critical background in order to better understand Duranty's dispatches, to better appreciate what his position is and what to expect from him, this book is very valuable.

In "I Write as I Please" Duranty tells of his experiences as a newspaper correspondent from the time he first goes to the Baltic to cover the war against the revolution to the present when he is probably the best known of the foreign correspondents in the Soviet Union. He tells of his open prejudice against the Bolsheviks at the start and how his ideas gradually changed when he understood what they were attempting to do, the enormity of the odds against them, and the tremendous degree of success they were achieving.

While he is not a Marxist, he did study their problems and was smart enough to realize, at a time when almost all foreigners thought Russia was reverting to capitalism under the New Economic Policy, that this was simply a period of retrenchment and that the fight for Socialism would continue. He was also the only important foreign correspondent who realized the importance and value of Stalin at a time when he was rarely mentioned in the capitalist press. He tells with some understanding, if not sympathy, of the struggle for collectivization and of the importance of this move for the achievement of Socialism.

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DOCTOR BOLLSHEVİK, M. D.

By Ronald R. Cooley

Biography of a Professional Man Who Objects to a Society Which Puts his Patients to Death with Grinding Poverty

In 1926 a descendant of an immigrant who landed in America in 1632, having completed his grammar and high school education in Minneapolis, went to Austria and entered the University of Vienna to study medicine. His name was Franklin E. Bissell.

With the exception of one semester in the University of Paris, young Bissell spent six years in Austria. He studied French and German; he studied politics; he graduated into Karl Marx and joined the Communist Party of Austria.

Only once in those six years was he jailed. Some Nazis attacked him and two companions one evening in Vienna. When the police arrived the three students were pounding the Nazis on their noses, and that wasn't considered good form, even in those days before Hitler was in the saddle. The students were held overnight, but the Nazis "escaped."

Having completed his schooling, young Bissell returned to America and came to Oakland in the spring of 1933. He entered the San Francisco County Hospital as an interne and entered the Communist Party of America as an apprentice bolshevik. During his year as an interne he spread propaganda among the patients, nurses and doctors at every opportunity.

In the evenings and on his days off he spread propaganda from house to house and took part in street meetings. Twice in this period he was arrested; once for putting up stickers advertising a Mooney mass meeting, and once for being present at an anti-war demonstration on the Embarcadero. He still boasts that his bail was set at \$3,000 on the second occasion. Why, he doesn't know.

In 1933 the agricultural workers of California, massed solidly in the Cannery and Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union, opened a fight for an adequate living standard. They struck in the cotton fields of the San Joaquin Valley. Faced with a reign of vigilante terror that has been duplicated only in Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, between 15,000 and 20,000 workers—men, women and children, black, white and brown—barricaded themselves in an encampment, which became famous as "Camp Corcoran."

Within the confines of their encampment the workers were safe from the vigilantes and the sheriff; but the dangers of disease were alarming. The Communist Party sent Dr. Franklin E. Bissell to Corcoran with orders to keep himself out of jail long enough to introduce some sort of sanitation into the camp and to set up an organization to guard the health of the strikers.

He worked under frightful handicaps. The poverty of California's farm workers is notorious. They had no funds for food, or for medicines of any sort. Not having the benefits of a modern education they were ignorant of hygiene. Trifling illnesses were a problem. A few nurses volunteered their services; a few doctors donated some medicines; sympathetic labor organizations sent money and supplies sufficient to prevent any major catastrophes. But Camp Corcoran remained, until the strike was won, a fortress of hunger and illness besieged by five in organizing the unemployed



in the San Francisco County Hospital.

When the police threatened to use vomit gas on the maritime strikers Dr. Bissell superintended the establishment of a room in the MWIU headquarters for treatment of any possible victims. Vomit gas was not used, but a sealed room was ready for use of the chlorine treatment necessary to relieve those suffering from it.

Since the police and the arbitration board were unable to break the strike, the vigilantes tried their hand. In Berkeley they smashed a hall and heaved bricks through the windows of about fifty homes. This ceremony was supposed to exorcise the Reds. A brick (with a note tied to it) was left at the entrance to Bissell's office, which happened to be on a second floor. In San Francisco nearly a score of Communists, real and otherwise, were thrown into the city jail and were carefully made miserable with bad food, etc. They all went on a hunger strike. The jail physician examined them at intervals and pronounced them able to endure an enormous amount of hunger.

Not trusting doctors on public payrolls too far, the International Labor Defense sent Dr. Bissell to examine the prisoners, which he did. He was promptly arrested on a charge of practicing medicine in San Francisco County without registering there. This is a charge that has never before (or since) been brought against any medical man in the state. A doctor who is registered in Alameda County can practice on patients in Contra Costa, Marin and San Francisco counties as much as he likes, without registering in any of them, and never be bothered—unless he goes to a jail to examine men and women arrested during a labor struggle. Bissell was promptly released, but not until Hearst's San Francisco Call-Bulletin had taken a crack at him in its headlines.

Since that time he has been active in organizing the unemployed in the East Bay. He is medical

advisor for the East Bay Federation of Unemployed and Allied Organizations (a strong union with fraternal delegates on the local A. F. of L. Labor Council). And he is head of a "routing clinic" for the jobless, which is sponsored by the Federation. This clinic gives no treatment. Men and women in need of medical care and unable to extract it from the red tape mills, can go to this "routing clinic" where they receive a free examination and a letter to the powers who prevent jobless relief, calling attention to their ills and the treatment needed.

Those letters are remarkably efficacious as red tape cutters, and usually get decent treatment for their bearers.

Dr. Bissell's services to common humanity have not brought him a penny. They have earned him a good bit of notoriety as a Red. Hearst's headlines got queer results: they frightened away many of his white collar patients who still paid their bills, and at the same time recruited him scores of patients from the ranks of the ragged.

These latter he helps organize into jobless organizations; and when they need hospital care or medicines for which they are unable to pay, he sees that the organization gets it for them. His patients have a remarkable faith in him as a doctor who will diagnose their cases thoroughly and honestly and will fight to get them the best care available—if he has to mobilize the revolution to do it.

He was the most popular physician on the SERRA "panel" for medical and dental relief when it was first instituted in Alameda County last August. So many jobless workers in need of a doctor asked for him that it became positively embarrassing to the SERRA (now SRA). Doctor Burton Adams, county medical director of the then SERRA had him kicked off the panel, in October, as "unethical," without any sort of trial or hearing.

When the County Federation of Unemployed and Allied Organizations demanded some sort of trial on the charges against Bissell the red tape wanderers refused anything outside a star chamber hearing. That the Federation refused. When pinned down on the charges, none of the SERRA bureaucrats, from highest to lowest, could face a direct question with an honest answer.

As a side line he conducts a medical column in the Western Worker, in which he debunks many frauds and gives advice to his readers.

And since his ancestors landed here in 1632 he can scarcely be considered an "alien agitator." If anyone would claim that his radicalism was soaked up in Austria it can be answered that he comes of a family of "agitators." He is a direct descendant of Ethan Allen, who commanded the famous Green Mountain Boys in those days when George Washington, et al, were overthrowing our early American institutions. He is twenty-seven years old, blond and fairly tall, with a rather professionally reserved manner. He recently married a University of California student, who shares his social and economic views regarding a doctor's place in the service of the working class and humanity in general.

Health and the Class Struggle

By FRANKLIN E. BISSELL, M. D.

CLINICS OR PANEL?

Several weeks ago, I attended a conference in San Francisco which should have a great influence on the course of the struggle for better medical care in the immediate future in California. Present were several progressive doctors and unemployed leaders, including Alex Noral, state organizer for the Federation of Unemployed and Allied Organizations.

We were all in agreement that the end to strive for is a highly organized system of socialized, state medicine whose services could be utilized by all classes of society. However, we believed that such a system can not be established for some time to come in its complete form, and some of us were of the opinion that it would be largely out of the question under the capitalist system. What concerns us mainly at the present time is to work out some plan of action to win immediate medical and dental relief in this section of the country for the unemployed and workers in the lowest category of wages.

MEDICAL PLANS DISCUSSED

The most important side of the problem is what plan the unemployed organizations should advance for the organization and administration of such relief. It was generally agreed that, wherever possible, the clinic and dispensary form of organization should be advanced as being more economical and more in keeping with modern scientific medical advance. In each locality, such institutions

should all be under one head, such as the county or the SRA, in order that the work may be well co-ordinated.

Another method of furnishing medical relief which has been tried is the so-called panel system. Under this system, the patients are sent by the relief officials to the doctors in their private offices where they receive medical care. It has been tried in Alameda County by the SRA, and although it was better than the lack of service prevailing before, the system has not worked very well.

SAN FRANCISCO DIFFERENT

There is a peculiar situation in San Francisco, because the two medical schools furnish the medical service for the clinics and all the free hospitals. For this reason, it was brought out in the discussion, it would be impractical to demand in San Francisco that all free service be directed by one relief agency. At the present time, a panel system to supplement the service in the clinics would have more chance of success. This applies also to those counties where the population is scattered and therefore clinics are not practical.

In other localities where the population lives largely in cities and where the clinics and free hospitals are all operated by the county, the unemployed organizations should concentrate on forcing improvement in the service in the clinics, whether with county, state, or Federal funds is immaterial. This is the situation in Los Angeles, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties.

Can You Name This Column?

CONDUCTED BY M. ARJORIE CRANE

You've just a week to enter the contest to name this column. The name must definitely denote it as the woman's section; should be smart and short. The winner will be awarded a FREE SUBSCRIPTION, for one year, to the new women's magazine, The Woman Today. To be considered your entries must reach us not later than Saturday, April 18th. The winner will be announced in the issue of Thursday, April 23rd.

WOMEN AND POLITICS

"But I'm not interested in politics!"—How many times have women said this—how many times a day are they still saying it? Why?

For generations they have been told that they should not be. They have been told their place is in the home. Up until a few years ago, women were denied the right to vote. They rebelled—and they were given the franchise. But they found the world did not change immediately, that all of their problems were not solved by being given the privilege of going to the polls with the men. And so many women have come to believe the capitalists when they tell us that politics are "dirty" and that we can accomplish nothing through political action.

IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC GAINS

It is true that we women, will never be truly free and equal until capitalism is abolished—until the whole system of private property is thrown into discard. But we can procure for ourselves immediate economic gains under this system.

The bill introduced by Senator Frazier (known as S. 3475) is an example of the kind of legislation which will benefit the great majority of the women in this country. This bill very definitely takes into consideration the needs and problems with which women are faced. Bill S. 3475 provides for a nationwide system of social insurance. It obligates the government to insure every worker against loss of income due to unemployment, old age and other disability. It provides for a minimum of compensation of \$10 per week, plus \$3 for each dependent.

"SOAK THE RICH"

It definitely provides that the burden of paying for this insurance will be placed on the rich where it belongs. The national wealth shall bear the greatest part of the burden, and additional costs shall be derived from high incomes, corporate surpluses and other accumulated wealth.

The bill also provides maternity insurance for eight weeks before and six weeks after childbirth to women workers, who otherwise receive no earnings because of maternity. Women workers entitled to maternity insurance would be compensated to the amount they would receive if unemployed.

There is also provision for widows' and mothers' compensation and unemployment and old-age relief regardless of sex.

UP TO US

It doesn't promise us limousines or caviar, but it does promise us aid when we need it most. It doesn't promise to solve all of our problems, but it promises to help us to get the basic necessities of life.

Senator Frazier has introduced this bill. But in order to become a reality it must be passed by Congress and signed by the President. As was pointed out, this bill placed the burden on the rich, and plainly the corporation lobbyists in Washington are not going to fight for it. It is up to those of us who will benefit by this bill to get behind it—to demand that Congress pass it.

WHAT WE CAN DO

How are we going to do this? Are we going to continue as we have in the past? Are two or three of us in this neighborhood and four or five in another going to the polls and vote for politicians whose past records have not shown them to be honest fighters for the people, whose campaign promises are only thought of during campaigns?

We know that the accusations of graft and corruption that each politician hurls at his opponent are true. And so we are going to leave these gentlemen outside in the cold with their campaign promises and their graft and corruption. We are going to elect candidates of our own! Men and women whose past records convince us they will fight for us. We are going to work together with other people whose political beliefs may not be exactly like ours—but who join us in demanding sincere, honest representatives of the people. In this way we will build a backing for Senator Frazier's bill—for every other bill which benefits the working class.

Jobless Union Local Holds Benefit Affair

LOS ANGELES, April 5.—To raise funds to finance Public Works and Unemployed Union delegates at the national unemployed convention, Local 49 of the PWU will stage an affair with motion pictures, a social and dance next Saturday night, April 11th, at the New Film Group Auditorium, 5525 Harold Way, Hollywood.

Films to be shown, by the New Film Group, include "Economic Conditions in Los Angeles," "Give Us This Day," and 1933 Unemployed Demonstration.

The drive for signatures to repeal the Criminal Syndicalism law is about to open. Petitions must be distributed in all unions, central labor bodies, and mass organizations. Get ready to go.

Dr. Franklin Bissell

PHYSICIAN and SURGEON
532 - 15th Street, Oakland
Templebar 6244 Ashberry 9325

What's Wrong in Hollywood?

AUTHORS AMOUNT TO OFFICE BOYS SAYS LAWSON

What's wrong with the motion picture industry was last week succinctly expressed by John Howard Lawson, representing the Dramatists Guild before the House Patents Committee in Washington, D. C., at its hearing on the Duffy Copyright Bill.

Said Lawson: "... We have in the motion picture industry a situation where we find that the writer has none of the protection,

none of the dignity, as yet, that he has attained in other fields. One finds cases . . . for instance, of very well known writers . . . who are treated practically as office boys in the Hollywood studios, whose creative energy is not allowed free play, whose technical abilities, which have been tremendously demonstrated in the field of the theater, or the field of books, and who were brought there . . . to give certain definite benefits, certain definite creative values, are deprived of the right to give those values.

"With the talking picture, the importance of the author became apparent, but the author did not benefit by this.

"The next era, the period from 1928 to the present day is a period when the big motion-picture companies, facing the depression, have been forced necessarily to introduce large-scale business methods and more or less machine methods into the industry. . . . This period has been the period of the executive . . . who is often thoroughly ignorant of creative values, ignorant of the technique on which he sets himself up arbitrarily as

judge. In a sense that period has been necessary . . . but . . . the next step is and must be that the creator, . . . who knows how to create material and produce entertainment for millions of our people, shall have the right to do that job according to the technical method that he has learned.

"And the reason why the moral standard of movies and the esthetic standard are so low today is due primarily to the ignorance of this basic fact. Do you suppose that it is the writers who want to put the absurdities, the repetitious paragraphs, the indecent allusions which one often finds in motion pictures? Of course not. It is the executive who wants to get some sort of entertainment value which he has failed to get because he has failed to recognize the importance and value of the creative workers who are there to give him that very entertainment value."

We need worker correspondence from every part of the West Coast. Write about experiences and problems in field, factory and workshop.

— LOS ANGELES —

Opening Wednesday, April 8th PEOPLE'S BOOK STORE

321 West Second Street
Los Angeles

Complete stock of books, magazines, and newspapers—For accurate information and theory of all people's movements, trade unionism, world affairs, American political developments, social and cultural movements.

OTHER BOOK STORES

230 South Spring Street, Los Angeles.
2411 1/2 Brooklyn Avenue, Los Angeles.
224 West Sixth Street, San Pedro.

EDITORIALS

Speed May Day Preparation In All Sections

The preparations for May Day demonstrations and meetings must be carried forward with the greatest intensity during the next two weeks. Immediate results must be shown. To date, California has seriously in preliminary steps and enthusiasm for bringing the workers onto the streets on this 50th Anniversary of the graphic struggle for the Eight Hour Day.

From Chicago, scene of the origin of May Day, place of the legal murdering of the Haymarket victims, comes news of enthusiastic support being given to the trade union conference which is endorsed by both the Socialist and Communist parties. From all indications 100,000 hordes will take to the streets.

New York promises an even more spectacular demonstration, with at least 500,000 already involved in conference proceedings through their delegates. Here, too, the united front of trade unions, unemployed organizations, Socialist Party and Communist Party, cultural groups, liberal and professional associations, have joined hands to make a spectacular challenge to poverty and reaction, fascism and war.

From elsewhere throughout the country news of active preparations continues to pour in.

There is no time to lose. See that delegates are elected to May Day conferences at once.

Force The Supervisors To Appeal The One-man Car Injunction

The action of Judge Lunderback in granting the Market Street Railway what amounts to permanent permission to operate its one-man cars on San Francisco streets is unconstitutional.

More than this, it is in direct violation of the will of the people of San Francisco who voted by an overwhelming majority of more than three-to-one against permitting one-man cars on the streets of their city.

But the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco has the power to file an appeal against this injunction granted by Lunderback. Last Monday it preferred to stall on this issue and in doing so it too has chosen to ignore the voice of the voters of San Francisco.

Who owns these streets of ours anyway—the Market Street Railway or the people? By whose permission does the railway company operate any cars on these streets—one-man cars or regulation two-man cars?

Later organizations and all other organizations and individuals should demand that the Board of Supervisors, at its meeting next Monday, take definite steps toward smashing the Lunderback injunction. The supervisors say they must see the situation from a standpoint of profits to the Market Street Railway, before they take action to file an appeal.

The safety of San Francisco street-car riders and the livelihood of hundreds of street-car workers threatened with dismissal must take precedence over profits. The chambers of the Board of Supervisors at the City Hall should be packed next Monday afternoon to force these gentlemen to act.

The Lunderback injunction must be smashed once and for all!

On To Sacramento April 19

The State Board of Prison Pardons has denied paroles to five labor organizers serving time in San Quentin, framed and convicted under California's infamous Criminal Syndicalism Act.

A parole would have meant these men would go free—they already have served the minimum sentence under the law.

But the Associated Farmers and the Industrial Association don't want them to go free. The State Chamber of Commerce doesn't want them to go free—now or at any other time.

According to the gentlemen who comprise the membership of these organizations, it is a "crime" to organize the working people. The Industrial Association and the Chamber of Commerce tell their membership this repeatedly in subversive publications circulated throughout their organizations.

The employers crack the whip over the shoulders of their political stooges and one track is enough to keep five innocent men—and possibly three innocent women—in prison or from three to five years.

This same the employers will play to the limit as long as the C.S. Law remains on the statute books. That's why the Conference for the Repeal of the C.S. Law is being called at Sacramento April 19. This Conference will unite thousands of individuals and scores of organizations in one mighty united front dedicated to securing the repeal of this law.

If your organizations hasn't elected dele-

gates to the Sacramento Conference it's time to do so now. This law may be used next against you or a friend of yours. Get behind the repeal movement. On to Sacramento!

Five Minutes In Memory Of A Dollar Line Owner!

All ships of the Dollar Line were to pause for five minutes and all activity was to be suspended last Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m. in tribute to a deceased member of the Dollar family.

Hundreds of maritime workers were undoubtedly stimulated to thought of this occasion—but by no means in tender memory. Intimate knowledge of the intense exploitation by which the Dollar fortune was built from a dollar to industrial millions, the sweating of ship and shore-side labor, would cause considerable outspoken comment on ships coming to a stop on the high seas while flags flew at half-mast.

In labor circles in general, especially those now in the midst of preparations for rallying new vigor to fight for Mooney's freedom beginning with a mass meeting on May 15th, will recall that just a few days ago the Dollar Line owners were shown to be profoundly interested in the Mooney frame-up events of 1916.

J. Harold Dollar may have been a pillar of "thrill" and a worthy son of his father, "The grand old man of the sea" as he has been playfully called, but he was a mammoth sweatshop owner and a vicious labor-hater to the men who built his fortune.

When labor next pauses on the Dollar and every other line, let it be on behalf of Tom Mooney and all other political prisoners.

The Pot Calls The Kettle Black

Regardless of whether or not charges of immorality leveled against State Superintendent of Schools Kersey are true, certain aspects of the scandal are revealing.

Urbic Trussell, Kersey's accuser, is commander of the "California Cavaliers," a semi-fascist organization whose members assisted in the gathering of "evidence" against the eight agricultural union organizers framed last year at Sacramento under the Criminal Syndicalism Law.

The "Cavaliers" are associated with reactionary farmers' groups in Central and Northern California. Thus, once again, the trail leads directly back to the employers.

Political implications of the Kersey scandal have not as yet been revealed. But we can be certain "morals" are not all that is at stake. And as long as reactionary employers are allowed to control politics and government there will always be scandals and exposures.

They feed us "juicy scandals" while behind scenes they plot to take the bread and butter from our mouths. This is why the Communist Party says that only the immediate organization of a powerful, mass controlled Farmer-Labor Party can turn these employer-conspirators aside and save the common people from the hell of reaction that is fascism.

Praise Roosevelt, Says Hearst

"MAKE EDITORIALS EXTOLLING THE ADMINISTRATION FOR ITS PREPAREDNESS POLICIES, WHICH ARE ITS MAIN ACHIEVEMENT."

Telegram sent to his Washington editor by William Randolph Hearst, American fascist extraordinary and bitter opponent of unemployment relief and progressive measures. He finds it important to praise Roosevelt's 1936 billion dollar war preparedness measures, greatest in history. In the meanwhile, Roosevelt cuts relief.

The old parties are devoted to essentially the same aims, which they try to accomplish with differing shades of hypocrisy.

Build the Farmer-Labor Party! Fight for peace, bread and freedom!

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

"We are free today substantially, but the day will come when our republic will be an impossibility. It will be an impossibility because wealth will be concentrated in the hands of a few."—JAMES MADISON.

"The freest government cannot long endure when the tendency of the law is to create a rapid accumulation of property in the hands of a few, and to render the masses poor and dependent."—DANIEL WEBSTER.

Italy C. P. Acknowledge Help

COMPLETE FASCIST CHILD

We publish here the splendid answer of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Italy to the campaign of solidarity with the Italian C. P.

To the Sponsoring Committee for Help to the Communist Party of Italy, New York City.

Dear Comrades:

We have duly received the first contribution of \$500 out of the collection you are making in favor of our Party, as well as the \$500 offered to us by our brother Party of the U.S.A.

"Thank you so much, dear comrades, for all you are doing to help us. We shall let our comrades and fellow workers in Italy know as soon as possible about this touching proof of solidarity from the part of the American workers."

Tell the American workers that we are deeply moved by this proof of fraternity in our struggle; tell them that the comrades who are fighting in our country and all class-conscious workers of Italy will be greatly touched when hearing that the American workers bring help to the Communist Party of Italy, the largest anti-fascist Party of our country, which has been restlessly fighting for years and from whose ranks have come forward revolutionary heroes who are honouring the whole international working class and all friends of peace and freedom.

ITALIAN NEED

The Italian workers cannot give at present to their Party all financial means needed to lead our work and agitation. In our position the collecting of money is extremely hard. On the other hand, here are the means we need: and Italian workers have been reduced by Fascism to the greatest misery.

When the Italian workers were living under a regime of comparative freedom, they gave millions to their institutions and political organizations. Moreover, they considered it always their international duty to assist their fellow comrades and workers of other countries on many occasions. They helped the children of Vienna after the war and rescued them from starvation; they helped the victims of the Hungarian reaction; they sent packages of victuals to the Volga region devastated by dryness; they collected huge sums of money to support the fight of the English miners in 1926.

AMERICAN EXAMPLE

It is their turn today, to need the help of their brothers of the whole world. By accepting the initiative of the Communist Party of the U.S.A. and coming to the assistance of our Party in its fight, you, American workers and comrades, are giving the world an admirable example.

We wish we could be among the American workers, in order to explain to them how we are working, how we intend to use the money they send to us. But it is not so easy to do so. We must think of other ways of getting in contact with the American comrades, reaching them through the Press, through large information and expositions presented in the largest centers of the United States. We do feel it our duty to give an account to you about our work and struggle.

The task we are facing today

is a great one. The position of our country and the situation in Europe and in the whole world demands decisive action on our part for the defense of peace. Our main slogan, AWAY FROM AFRICA! AWAY WITH MUSSOLINI AND ALL HIS ACCOMPLICES! FREEDOM, coincide in a direct way with the interests of the proletariat and of the toilers of the whole world. We have to win the great battle for peace and freedom in our country, to save it from a disaster and to defend peace in the world. Every cent you collect for us increases the means for struggle at our disposal.

Long live the international solidarity of the proletariat in its common struggle! Down with Mussolini! Peace, bread, freedom! ROT FRONT!

For the Communist Party of Italy, GARLANDI.



If you contemplate building a hell on earth for your children, I suppose it is wisdom to dress them appropriately for it. The same way of protecting children, however, would be to prevent the use of poison gasses. Above is pictured an Italian child wearing the costume that Il Duce deems necessary for the future he is designing.

For a United Front on May Day

Statement of the Central Committee, Communist Party, U. S. A.

forces the Latin American countries to pay tribute to Wall Street. In the name of peace, Roosevelt is carrying on gigantic war preparations and has given the militarists and jingos a billion-dollar war budget.

Under the guise of neutrality the Roosevelt administration allows the shipment of materials for war to the fascist dictatorships—Italy, Japan, Germany. Our own reactionaries and jingos—Hearst, Coughlin and the Liberty League—encourage Hitler and Japanese militarism to attack the Soviet Union. Let us press onward and build a real working class blockade against all munitions shipments and the shipment of all war materials to the fascist war machines.

We cannot trust Roosevelt's smooth words about neutrality. His policy is helping to pave the way so that the bankers can drag the United States into the next World War, just as his predecessor, Wilson, went to war to protect the profits of the House of Morgan.

Defense of Soviet Union

We must demonstrate our determination to join hands with workers throughout the world in the fight for peace in the fight against the instigators of a new world war—fascist Germany and militarist Japan. Let us unite with the toilers of the whole world to keep America out of war by keeping war out of the world, to save humanity from the horrors of a new world slaughter. Let us on May First, the traditional day of Socialism, pledge ourselves to defend the only country of Socialism—the Soviet Union. Let the American working class show that it stands solidly behind the peace policy of the Soviet Union, the only country which plans no aggressive action, which wants to enslave no people, which has no capitalists trying to coin money out of death and destruction.

On May First, the day on which the working class demonstrates for its own class interests, let us raise high the banner of struggle for independent working class political action. The three years of the New Deal have shown the workers and farmers that they cannot depend on the two old capitalist parties to fight for their interests. The Democratic Party and the Republican Party may have differences as to how the loot taken from the toilers should be divided. But they are the parties of Wall Street, owned and directed by the banks and monopolies.

A Farmer-Labor Party

Do not rely upon Roosevelt, who uses high sounding words against the reactionaries but who on every issue retreats before them and carries out their dictates. Do not believe those labor leaders like John L. Lewis, who ask you to line up behind Roosevelt and to abandon the building of a Farmer-Labor Party. This is the road to disunity. This will keep the people chained to the Democratic and Republican parties, to the parties of Wall Street. This will weaken the independent force of labor and its alliance with the farmers and city middle classes. This leaves us completely at the mercy of Roosevelt and the Liberty Leaguers.

If we are to make the rich pay the cost of the crisis, if we are to relieve the workers and farmers of the unbearable burden of taxation, if we are to give work to the unemployed and hope to the youth, if we are to prevent the victory of fascism in the United States, if we want to defend and preserve peace then we must build the People's Front against war and fascism—a Farmer-Labor Party.

As we march through the streets and raise our voices in protest against fascism, let us extend the hand of solidarity to the victims of class war in the United States and throughout the capitalist world. Let us demand the freedom of Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro

Boys, the Sacramento Prisoners, and all those framed and imprisoned by the capitalists for their struggle against reaction and their efforts in behalf of the working class.

For Ernst Thaelmann

Let the Nazi rulers hear us demand on May First that they release Ernst Thaelmann, Carl Von Ossietzky, and the tens of thousands of other anti-fascist victims of fascist terror in Austria, Italy, and wherever the white terror rages. Let us demand the freedom of Luis Carlos Prestes, imprisoned and tortured because he fights to liberate the Brazilian people from the domination of Wall Street. Let us demand the immediate and safe release of the German Reichstag deputy Ewert and his wife from the torture chambers of Brazilian white terror. Let us support the fight of the Latin American peoples for their national independence, and their struggle to free themselves from the yoke of American imperialism.

As we march on May Day let us remember that we live in the richest land in the world. There is wealth enough for everyone. Not a single man, woman or child would have to go hungry if the warehouses were opened, if the closed factories started to operate again, if human needs were put above the privileges of profit.

For Socialism, for a Soviet America

No capitalist country is so ripe for Socialism as the United States, where the toilers have built up the greatest productive plants in the world. Inspired by the great victories of Socialism in the Soviet Union, where unemployment has been abolished, where hundreds of nationalities live in peace, where the greatest culture in the history of the world is being built, let us resolve that we in the United States will fight for the victory of Socialism, for a Soviet America.

Workers, Farmers, Socialists, Communists, trade unionists, unemployed, down tools on May Day. Demonstrate the power of the American working class. Make of labor's May Day parades a mighty fist challenging the tyranny and greed of the bankers and open-shoppers. Let this May Day become the day from which the American working class will advance to new victories.

Down tools on May First! All out into the streets! Build the mighty United Front of the working class on May First!

For the six-hour day, for the five-day week without reduction in pay! For higher wages, against the high cost of living!

Make every city a union city! For a powerful American Federation of Labor based on industrial unionism!

For unemployment, old age, and social insurance (the Frazier-Lundene Bill)!

For full social, political and economic equality for the Negro people!

Jobs and schools for America's youth! Demand the passage of the American Youth Act!

For a People's Front against war and fascism! For a Farmer-Labor Party!

Keep America out of war by keeping war out of the world! Against Roosevelt's billion-dollar war budget!

Support the peace policy of the Soviet Union! Defend the Soviet Union—the Land of Socialism!

Follow the example of the Soviet Union! Forward to a Soviet America!

COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.
Wm. Z. Foster, Chairman,
Earl Browder, General Secretary.

Seeing Red

By Michael Quin

One of the things about capitalism which wins our unqualified contempt is the fact that she is such an ungrateful old hag. No matter how unjust her case may be, it is understandable that she should vent her spleen upon her enemies. But the fact that she inflicts equal persecution on her most loyal and industrious servants marks her as possessed of a ferocity less disciplined than that of the wildest animals.

San Francisco's Civic Center is a broad park surrounded by stately granite buildings which house the stout and pompous administrators of one of the most peculiar and illogical social systems since the ancient Hottentots. To this oasis of architectural grandeur, amidst the jungle of dusty firetraps and blistered buildings which form San Francisco, come hundreds of pigeons, seagulls and ragged men.

I chose a seat on a bench beneath the trees just opposite the palatial City Hall, over which the stars and stripes flapped in proud complacency. Soon an elderly man in a dirty overcoat limped up and sat beside me.

He carefully removed his dilapidated coat, folded it gently, took a needle and thread from behind his lapel and began to sew up a ragged button-hole.

"My good friend," he said, "Do you happen to know if there are any places left where they are serving free meals?"

I didn't. He sighed.

"They put me off relief when they gave me a WPA job. Then they fired me from the WPA and now they won't take me back on relief. 'Tis no matter I suppose. I'll be getting my bonus in a few months. I'll get me a new coat then and maybe my wife will come back to me. But I haven't eaten since yesterday morning. That was at ten o'clock. I had a little mush and a boiled egg.

"Bad luck, My leg. Two days on WPA and it begins acting up. Look!"

He pulled the frayed cuff of his soiled trousers above his knee, revealing white skin framed in the shiny nickel and tan leather of a brace.

"That happened in the army. Twenty-eight years and nine months, I served. Spanish War, Philippines, Boxer Rebellion, Was in Siberia in the last war."

"And who were you fighting in Siberia?"

"Oh, we were fighting up there.

All the countries had armies in there then. The Japanese had ten men to our one. Half the time we was fighting under Japanese officers. Sometimes under Russian.

"We was shipped up from the Philippines in our tropical khaki uniforms. Boy! Was it cold! Nothin' to eat but canned tomatoes, canned 'bill and hard tack. Sleepin' in box cars with no heat."

"Yes. But who were you fighting?"

A note of humiliation came into his voice. "Well, we was fightin' the Bolsheviks, I guess."

"You guess! You were fighting the Russian people. Those were the Bolsheviks you were fightin'.

They were tired of living like pigs and were fighting to set up a decent social order and you were marched in there by Morgan, Rockefeller and Ford to try to keep them from doing it. You didn't have any more business there than you'd have climbing in your neighbor's window and stealing his watch."

"No. I ain't arguin'. I know we didn't have no business up there. I ain't got nothin' against the Bolsheviks. But we was sent up there, and that's how it was. 'That'll look a little better now, 'I'll get that bonus.' He tucked the needle and thread behind his lapel, shook out the dirty coat and examined all sides. "Kind of hopeless, ain't it?" He looked to me for opinion. I snatched my lips and shook my head.

"It just seems," he said, "when they begin to give out, they give out everywhere at once. I been sewin' it here and there for a month, and the more I sew, the worse it looks. It was an expensive coat once. The guy who originally bought it must have give a good price for it."

He eased into it carefully, buttoned what buttons remained, and patted them with his hand.

"Well, good day," he said. "I'm going to see if there's any place around where you can get a free meal."

There was a man who paraded in the brass buttons of imperialism for the profit of Wall Street. They made him a murderer in the name of civilization and paid him off in destitution. The blood of God knows how many men was on his hands. His ears had resounded to the plaudits of hysterical crowds as he marched away to battle. And now, all he wanted was a free meal. They took away his uniform and gave it to the new generation. And now he was limping toward his grave in a dirty old overcoat.

Swedish Seaman Gets Sentence for Owing Anti-Fascist Papers

PARIS, March 5.—The fascist "peoples' court at Hamburg sentenced the Swedish seaman, Erik Jansson to five years at hard labor for having in his possession two copies of a Swiss anti-fascist weekly paper, the "Rundschau."

Although Jansson proved that he had the copies for his own use and the Nazis could not prove he had any intention of passing them on to Germans, Jansson was sentenced for "intention." The court added that they had been lenient and that had it been proved that Jansson was a Communist agitator, the death sentence would have been passed.

When this outrageous verdict became known in Sweden, a nationwide protest movement started.

Armed Cristeros Attack Peasants

MEXICO CITY.—The rich landowners of Jalisco and other states are using every means up to assassination to fight the government's policy of granting land to the peasants. In many rural sections the owners of the big haciendas can act with impunity as they are in almost complete control of the rural magistrates.

Not long ago a band of "Cristeros" (armed bands of catholic fanatics) fired upon a group of peasants on the Ranch of Tecuan, Municipality of Encarnacion, Jalisco, killing five and wounding many others. The peasants had come to the ranch to ask for land promised them by the government. Among those killed were four members of the Communist Party.

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